

THE
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CONTENTS.

	<i>Page.</i>
Anecdotes of the Government of England and Scotland from the year 1400, to 1548, - - -	1
An Account of some Wonderful Natural Curiosities in Carniola, - - - - -	15
Description of Pekin, - - - - -	22
An Account of some Extraordinary Natural and Artificial Curiosities in Poland, - - - - -	27
Iambics on Thomas Paine, - - - - -	33
An Account of Herman of Unna, - - - - -	35
Dreadful Situation of a Traveller, - - - - -	52
National Physiognomy, - - - - -	64
French Physiognomical Character, - - - - -	65
Dutch Ditto Ditto, - - - - -	66
Interesting Account of a French Royalist and a Republican - - - - -	67
Customs and Manners of the Turks, - - - - -	74
The Sorcerers, - - - - -	89
Epitaphs, - - - - -	95
A New Description of the City of Paris, - - - - -	96
An Account of the Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants of Cochin China, in Asia, - - -	102
The Cornish Curate, a Tale, - - - - -	109
Extracts from Notes for History, by John Baptist Louvet, - - - - -	122
Affecting Memorial in behalf of Maria Theresa Charlotte de Bourbon, daughter of Louis XVI, late king of the French, - - - - -	136
The Clown and the Lawyer, - - - - -	139
Topographical Curiosities, - - - - -	140
Extract from Citizenness Roland's Appeal to Posterity, - - - - -	147
Account of the Turkish Harem, - - - - -	153
Description of the Princess of Wales, - - - - -	181
Ode to War, - - - - -	182
	Histor

	<i>Page.</i>
History of a Virtuoso, - - - - -	184
Affecting Incidents in the Revolutionary Prisons of France, - - - - -	189
Præmium to the Magpie and Robin Redbreast,	197
The Magpie and Robin Redbreast, a Tale; - -	199
Moral Obligation between a Man and a Dog, - -	203
Anecdote of Mr Wilkes, - - - - -	204
Humorous Apology for Authors, - - - - -	205
Scene from—She Stoops to Conquer, - - - -	209
Tquassuow and Knonquaiha, - - - - -	212
A Picturesque View of the Banks of the Rhine, -	218
Singular Incidents, Biographical Sketches, and Characteristic Traits; from the Year 1400 to the Year 1548, - - - - -	226
Miscellaneous Anecdotes, - - - - -	239
Anecdotes from Madame Roland's Appeal to Posterity, - - - - -	244
Description of the Prince of Wales, - - - -	250
The Tinker and Glazier, a Tale, - - - - -	252
The Unfeeling Father, a Fragment, - - - - -	255
Progress of a Modern Young Gentleman, - - -	257
The Generous Rival, a Tale, - - - - -	261
Extracts from Wollstonecraft's Vindication of the Rights of Woman, - - - - -	266

Directions for Placing the Plates.

The Princess of Wales, - - - - -	<i>to face page</i> 181
Scene Print from—She Stoops to Conquer, - -	209
The Prince of Wales, - - - - -	256



THE CALEDONIAN BEE.

ANECDOTES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ENGLAND
AND SCOTLAND, FROM THE YEAR
1400 TO THE YEAR 1548.

[From Andrews' History of Great Britain, Vol. I.
Part II.]

IN the beginning of the fifteenth century, the power of each department of legislature became now more accurately defined, although no considerable alterations had been made in either.

The king's authority was most assuredly not in general despotic, since he could neither repeal nor change any law which had been made by consent of his parliament. Yet that dispensing power which each monarch assumed, when it suited his purpose, threw far too great a weight into the scale of royalty. The sovereign beside retained the cruel right of giving in marriage the wards of the crown, although that prerogative (as well as that of purveyance) was exercised in a much more moderate degree than it has been of old.—*Fortescue de Laudibus Legum Angliæ.*

He could likewise press for his service not only soldiers and sailors, but also musicians, goldsmiths, embroiderers, and various sorts of artificers.—*Ibid.*

The peers attended their duty in parliament at their own expence. The representatives of the commons were always paid from the commencement of representation,

2.
 fentation. Toward the clofe of the fourteenth century it was fixed 4s. per diem for knights of shires, and half that fum for each burgefs. We may reasonably enough rate thefe fums equal to ten times their value in modern times. Confidering not only the weight of the filver but alfo the cheapnefs of provifions and conveniencies in the fifteenth century.

The fheriffs' influence in returning members was extenfive and frequently abufed. "Sometimes they made no proper elections of knights, &c. fometimes no return at all, and fometimes they returned fuch as had never been elected." *Pream. Stat. 23 H. vi. c. 14.*

For thefe and fuch-like mifdeméanors he might be fued by action at the affizes, and was liable to fine and imprifonment.

The qualification requifite for knights of shires was 40l. per annum. It appears too that ftrengh of body and conftitution was demanded, for the parliamentary writs about this period directed the electors to choofe not only the wifeft but the ftouteft men (*potentiores ad laborandum*) that they might be able to endure the fatigue of the journey and of clofe attendance.—*Præm.*

Befide their pay, the members of the houfe of commons had the privilege, for themfelves and their fervants, of freedom from all arrefts. A neceffary exemption, that they might be enabled to perform their duty. But this privilege (as well as their pay) attended on the members only during their actual fervices, and quitted them at the end of each feffion; allowing only for the few days which they might be obliged to employ in journeying to London and returning home.—*Ibid.*

The convocations were regularly fummoned with the lay-parliaments and as regularly met. The prelates were ftill directed to attend and "confult with the nobles." They were alfo directed to order their dean and arch-deacons to attend in perfon, each chapter to fend one proctor, and the clergy of each diocefe to fend two proctors, "to confent to thofe things which
 fhould

should be ordained by the common council of the kingdom." As therefore they were only to "consent," not to "consult," the proctors could scarcely be reckoned a part of the commons. They however received wages and partook of the privileges of parliament. The ecclesiastics still continued to lay taxes on themselves; but the consent of the other branches of legislature was necessary to give force to their decree.
—*Prynne.*

Parliaments were often called and quickly dismissed. They had frequently only one session and once (in 1399) but a single day. And in that one day deposed one king (Richard II.) and set up another.

No considerable alterations appeared in the English courts of law. The number of judges in the courts at Westminster was by no means certain. Under Henry VI, there were at one time eight judges in the court of common-pleas. Each judge took a solemn oath that "he would take no fee, pension, gift, reward or bribe from any suitor, saving meat and drink, which should be of no great value."—*Fortescue de Laudibus Legum Angliæ.*

The laws were ill-executed throughout* the fifteenth
A 2 century.

* To Richard III, on whom history has cast innumerable stains, England has considerable obligations as a legislator. Not to mention his causing each act of parliament to be written in English and to be printed, he was the first prince on the English throne who enabled the justices of the peace to take bail; and he caused to be enacted a law against raising money by 'Benevolence,' which, when pleaded by the citizens of London against cardinal Wolsey, could only be answered by an averment that 'Richard being an usurper and a murderer of his nephews, the laws of so wicked a man ought not to be forced.'—*Barrington on Statutes.*

He was (says a noble biographer) a good lawgiver, 'for the ease and solace of the common people.'—*Bacon's Henry VII.*

century. Maintenance (an union for sinister purposes) still prevailed; the priests by their exemptions were set above the laws; sanctuaries abounded throughout the realm, and protected the vilest criminal and the most dishonest debtor; perjury throve and afforded a living to many; while the high constable, under colour of exercising military law, was authorised to proceed in cases of treason, "summarily and without noise or form of trial," and if he wished to give an appearance of justice to his proceeding, he could call in the aid of torture by fire or on the rack.

The account which the learned judge Hale gives of the lawyers, who pleaded in the fifteenth century does them little honour. He condemns the reports during the reigns of Henry IV. and V, as inferior to those of the last twelve years of Edward III; and he speaks but coolly of those which the reign of Henry VI. produces.—*Hist. of Common Law, apud Henry.*

Yet this deficiency of progressive improvement in the common law arose not from a want of application to the science; since we read in a very respectable treatise that there were no fewer than 2000 students attending on the inns of chancery and of court, in the time of its writer.—*Fortescue de Laudibus, &c.*

The court of chancery seems to date its rise at the close of the fourteenth century. It was highly obnoxious to the professors of the common law, who, by their interest in the house of commons, procured a petition against it from the parliament to Edward IV, in 1474. The influence of the prelates (who were certain of guiding that court) defeated this attempt, and its establishment encountered no further difficulties.—*Cotton's Records.*

One observation there remains to make on the general state of the English at this period. Civilization indeed had not hitherto made such progress as entirely to abolish slavery. Yet few land-owners or renters were to be found who did not prefer the labour of free-
men

men * to that of slaves. This circumstance diminished their number, and the perpetual civil contests enfranchised many by putting arms in their hands. Within a few years after the accession of the Tudors, slaves were heard of no more.

A reflection made at the close of the fifteenth century, by Philip de Commines is the more remarkable as it is given voluntarily at the close of the longest and most bloody civil war with which the English annals can be charged. "In my opinion," (says that judicious observer) "of all the countries in Europe where I was ever acquainted, the government is no where so well managed, the people no where less obnoxious to violence and oppression, nor their houses less liable to the desolations of war, than in England; for there the calamities fall only upon the authors."

Scotland was not so happy. The unfortunate death of the Norwegian Margaret had involved that realm in a long and bloody contest with its powerful neighbour; and, although the gallant and free spirit of the Scots had preserved the independence of their country notwithstanding their inferiority in numbers, wealth and discipline, it could not prevent the preponderance of a most odious and tyrannic aristocracy.

Perpetual

* The value of freemen who would labour in agriculture was so well known, that statutes were passed to prevent any person who had not twenty shillings a year (equal to ten modern pounds) from breeding up his children to any other occupation than that of husbandry. Nor could any one, who had been employed in such work until twelve years of age, be permitted to turn himself to any other vocation.—*Public Acts.*

The condition of the slave in England was as completely wretched as the despot who owned him might please to make it. His goods were his master's, and, on that account, were free from taxation; and whatever injuries he might sustain he had no power to sue that master in any court of justice.—*Rym. Fœd. Prynn.*

Perpetual domestic war loosened every tie of constitutional government ; and a Douglas *, a Crieghton, or a Donald † of the isles, by turns exercised such despotism and inhumanity as no monarch in the fifteenth century would have dared to practise.

The endeavours of the first and of the second James were turned toward improving the jurisprudence of the north by engrafting on it the best parts of the English system ; but the suddenness of their deaths and the weak reign of their successor James III, prevented their people from receiving much benefit from such laudable designs.

The parliament of Scotland, at this period, had nearly monopolized all judicial authority. Three committees were formed from the house (for there was only one) soon after the members met. The first, like the 'Triers in England,' examined, approved or disapproved of petitions to the senate ; the second constituted the highest court in all criminal prosecutions, as did the third in civil ones. And, as every lord of parliament who chose it might claim his place in each of these committees, almost the whole administration of law,

* 'Oppression, ravishing of women, theft, sacrilege, and all other kinds of mischief, were but a dalliance. So that it was thought leifom in a depedner on a Douglas to slay, or murder, for so fearful was their name, and so terrible to every innocent man, that when a mischievous limmer was apprehended, if he alleged that he murdered and slew at a Douglas' command, no man durst present him to justice.'—*Lindsay*.

† 'Donald (lord of the isles) gathered a company of mischievous, cursed limmers, and invaded the king in every airth, wherever he came, with great cruelty ; neither sparing old nor young ; without regard to wives, old, feeble or decrippd women ; or young infants in the cradle, which would have moved a heart of stone to commiseration. And burned villages, towns, and corns, &c.—*Ibid*.

law, civil as well as military, resided in the breast of the Scottish nobility.

There was another court, that of session, of which the members and the duration were appointed by parliament.

The justiciary (an officer discontinued in England as too potent) was still nominally at the head of the Scottish law; and held courts which were styled "Justiciaires," as did the chamberlain "Chamberlainaires;" from these courts there was allowed an appeal to a jurisdiction of great antiquity, styled "The Four Boroughs' Court." This was formed of burgeses from Edinburgh and three other towns, who met at Haddington to judge on such appeals.—*Pub. Acts.*

There was one abuse, however, which rendered every court of justice nugatory. It had become a custom for the Scottish monarchs to bestow on their favourites not only estates, but powers and privileges equal to their own. These were styled "Lords of regalities;" they formed courts around them, had mimic officers of state, and tried, executed or pardoned the greatest criminals.

The good sense of James II, prompted him to propose a remedy for this inordinate evil; but two admirable laws which he brought forward (the one against granting "Regalities" without consent of parliament, the other, to prohibit the bestowing of hereditary dignities) were after his decease neglected; and Scotland continued, two centuries longer, a prey to the jarring interests of turbulent, traitorous noblemen.

The reigns of the seventh and of the eighth Henry brought to a period two States, each totally inconsistent with good government and human felicity. That aristocracy which, at the same time that it kept the monarch in awe, oppressed the people and caught in an instant the fire of civil dissension; and that bondage, which rendered the labourer and his family liable to be transferred;

transferred, like the oxen on the farm, according to his owner's caprice.

The power of the peers had been weakened by the destruction which the civil wars of the red and white rose had brought on the ancient families. The seventh Henry shewed no inclination to replenish their phalanx. He even contrived, by the act against retainers, and by rendering the conveyance of landed property more easy, to lessen the respectability of those that remained. The numbers of the upper house were again diminished by Henry VIII; who, on the dissolution of monastic institutions, deprived twenty-six abbots and two priors of their votes in that branch of the legislative system.

Whether or no the conduct of Henry VII, with respect to Ireland was just and prudent, those who live in the eighteenth century are well qualified to judge. The great lines of his policy were these: by means of his governor, Sir Edward Poyning, he procured the parliament of that island to enact, first, "That all former acts of the English parliament should be binding in Ireland; and, 2d, That before any Irish parliament should be holden, copies of the acts *proposed to be passed*, should be sent over to England for the approbation of the king and council.

As to slavery, the good sense of the nation, and its conviction that the willing exertion of a freeman was of more value than the forced labour of a Serf, had nearly emancipated the lower ranks of society by the beginning of the sixteenth century. Yet, a bill, meant at once to abolish this odious condition, which in 1526, was brought into the upper house, and was read three times in one day, had the ill fortune to be rejected; and the merit of this good work was left to reason, unaided by law.*

That

* No treatises relating to law or government were published during the reign of Henry VII. But a celebrated

That Henry VIII. took still greater liberties than his father,* with the privileges and property of his subjects cannot be denied; and particularly during those six years, when, displeased with the parsimony of his parliaments, he called none, but levied the necessary supplies by dint of prerogative and precedent. Shrinking with horror from the recollection of past miseries, the English seem to have dreaded the renewal of a civil war, more than the worst effects of despotism. Yet, in 1526, on a most illegal attempt to raise one sixth of the laity's goods, and one fourth of those belonging to the clergy, the monarch found so strong a spirit of opposition in the people, that he recalled his commissioners and dropped the project. Afterward, by managing the papal party and that of the reformation, by bestowing rich monastic forfeitures on men of power, and by the alternate use of menaces and soothing, he became so completely master of his parliaments, that (as he found nothing he could propose was too absurd for their approbation) he convoked them willingly, and dismissed them with reluctance.

The peers and the commons were indeed so entirely careless, as to the lives and liberties of the people, and consented to laws so perfectly contradictory to each other, that the observers of the one must inevitably fall under the censure of the other. As proofs of this axiom we need only recollect the statute which allowed

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celebrated book, written by one Marrow, on the office of a 'Justice of the Peace,' is often referred to by later writers, such as Fitzherbert, Lambarde, &c. and is said still to exist in MS.—*Reeves on English Law*.

* Yet Henry VII. had erected the despotic court of the star chamber; had renewed the practice of exacting benevolences, begun by Edward IV. and had pursued the path of Richard III. in prosecuting, by 'Bill of Attainder,' those whom otherwise he could not reach.

to the proclamation of Henry the authority of laws; * that which in 1529, absolved him from paying his debts; or that most ludicrously-tyrannical act which denounced, that "If the king or his successors should intend to marry any woman whom they took to be a pure and clean maid; if she, not being so, did not declare the same to the king, it would be high-treason; and all who knew it, and did not reveal it, were guilty of misprison of treason." "It is then only a *widow* that the king must address," said the scurrilous jesters of the age: and it did chance that Henry chose for his next new bride, the relict of the lord Latimer.—*Public Acts. Burnet.*

Nor could safety be insured by preserving a prudent silence; since whoever refused to answer on oath respecting the points in question, incurred the guilt of treason. In 1537, an act of parliament declared it treason to assert the validity of Henry's marriage with Catharine of Arragon, or Anne Boleyn. Within seven years a second statute made it equally treasonable to speak slanderously of the princesses Mary and Elizabeth, the issue of the above-named ladies. As both these contradictory acts were existing in force at the same period, a man could not have answered the simple question, "Whether he thought those princesses lawfully born?" without exposing himself to the punishment of a traitor; and the same danger attended him if he stood mute.

When we add to this, the power of the star-chamber, † the insolence of courtiers, ‡ (still harder to be borne

* Nine of the privy-council were to compose the court, which had power to punish offenders against such proclamations.

† The statute for the erection of this most despotic court, lord Bacon styles "a good law." It was composed of twenty-six members, chiefly the same as the privy-council. — Sir T. Smith, in his "Commonwealth of

borne than the despotism of sovereigns) and the vile administration of both civil and criminal law, through the known perjury of juries; * we must wonder at the

B 2 extreme of England," advances in its defence, that it was useful to govern those who were too *stout* for the ordinary course of justice. It is said to have been instituted to curb the riots of disbanded soldiers, who were too often turned loose on the country without either pay or quarters.—*Barrington, &c.*

The fines of their star-chamber were so severe and interesting, that sometimes places were taken for the auditors by three in the morning. The title of the court is supposed to be derived from *Starrum*, a barbarous word for a Jewish contract; as business with the Jews had probably been transacted there.—*Ibid.*

† In Strype's life of Stow we find, a garden-house belonging to an honest citizen of London, (which chanced to obstruct the improvement of a powerful favourite, Thomas Cromwell) "loosed from the foundation, borne on rollers, and replaced two and twenty feet within the garden," without the owner's leave being required; nay, without his knowledge. The persons employed, being asked their authority for this extraordinary proceeding, made only this reply, "That Sir Thomas Cromwell had commanded them to do it," *and none durst argue the matter.* The father of the antiquary Stow, (for it was thus trampled upon) "was fain to continue to pay his old rent, without any abatement, for his garden; though half of it was in this manner taken away."

* To support this harsh accusation we have but too many proofs. "Perjury," (says a statute 11 Henry VII. cap. 21.) "is much and customarily within the city of London, among such persons as passen and been impannelled in issue," &c. The preambles of many acts recited the frequent perjuries of jurors as common, though pernicious events.

extreme respect paid by contemporary historians to the government of England, as administered under the race of Owen Tudor.

It seems not improper to close these observations with the words of a late judicious writer: "In every regulation of a juridical nature made in this reign, we perceive a decisive hand. The parliament seemed determined at once to resolve all doubts, and to root out all difficulties, which, on former occasions, they had been content to soften and palliate. Instead of continuing still to ascertain the boundary between the civil and spiritual jurisdiction by new descriptions, provision was made by statute for correcting several irregularities wholly

In the "Dance of Death," translated from the French by John Lyngate, among the characters introduced to adapt it to the English reader, is a jurymen who has often been bribed to give a false verdict. This shews that the offence was not unusual.

Carew, in his account of Cornwall, avers, that it was common for attorneys to charge in their bills sums "pro amicitia vice comitis;" "for the sheriff's goodwill," &c. in packing juries.

The jurors of the capital were peculiarly abandoned. In 1468, Stow records the punishment and public disgrace of many jurors: he adds, that at the time of his writing (the reign of Elizabeth) their character continued the same. Fuller writes, that it is a common proverb, "London juries hang half and save half." Wolfey accused them of being capable of finding "Abel guilty of the murder of Cain." A statute which punishes petty juries for false verdicts, ordains that half the grand jury (when a foreigner shall be tried) shall be strangers and not Londoners; and lastly, Ben Johnson sings, in his Magnetic Lady,

"And there is no London jury, but are led
In evidence, as far by common fame
As they are by present deposition."—

Barrington on Statutes, &c.

wholly of a clerical nature; and for an entire reform of the ecclesiastical law. Instead of endeavouring to repress the luxuriancy of uses by fresh statutes against the pernors* of profits, it was intended to destroy the thing itself. The grand object of barring entails, which was accomplished at last by a recovery, was now substantiated by a parliamentary provision in favour of that mode of conveyance; and the construction which had been entertained, with difference of opinion, respecting the like effect of the statute of fines in the last reign, was now expressly established by the same authority. The devise of lands, which had hitherto been practised under cover of a use, and had been partially allowed by a late act, was now by express statute indulged to every one. The benefit of clergy, which had so long stood in the way of our criminal judicature, was now abolished in the principal and most common felonies.

"All these were innovations on the ancient law, which gave it a new turn, and brought these points under consideration, in a variety of new appearances.

"To these may be added, the protection and establishment of leases for years, execution against the effects of bankrupts, the limitation of actions, and the locality of trial in felonies."—*Hist. of English Law*.

We must now attend to the jurisprudence of our sister-nation, in which some advantage had certainly been gained to the cause of general security; although every obstruction had occurred which ruinous foreign wars, and still more detestable civil contentions, could cause.

About the beginning of the sixteenth century, the parliament appointed justices and sheriffs in Ross, Caithness, the Orknèys, and Western isles, where none had been before, and appointed courts to be held from time to time in these very remote districts. There was need of this attention if the preamble to the act is to

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* Law term for "Receivers."

be credited, "Through lack of justice-aires, justices and sheriffs, by which the people are *almost become wild.*"—*Public Acts. James IV.*

James V., who could sometime exert a just and proper spirit, sailed in 1535, from Leith, and examined in person how far these wholesome regulations had been put in practice. He seized and brought away some of the most turbulent chieftains, and inspired the most ungovernable of his subjects with a decent respect for the laws*.

The parliaments were frequently and regularly called, particularly by James IV. and V. Every thing which the nation could afford was granted by the house (for it was but single, the scheme which James I. had planned of forming two chambers having unhappily miscarried) and all possible care was taken by the house, that the king should not alienate the demesnes of the crown. In some instances, this branch of the legislature appears to have trenched upon the royal prerogative†, and even to have assumed the executive power.

It is certain (as has been remarked by a well-informed historian) that this mixture of liberality and of caution in the Scottish representatives, at the same time that

* Justice was administered with great expedition, and too often with vindictive severity. Originally the time of trial and execution was to be within 'three suns.' About the latter end of the seventeenth century, the period was extended to *nine* days after sentence; but, since a rapid and unjust execution in a petty Scottish town, in 1720, the execution has been ordered to be deferred for forty days on the south, and sixty on the north side of the Tay, that time may be allowed for an application to the king for mercy.—*Pennant.*

† As in 1503, when an act was passed for prohibiting the king from pardoning those convicted of wilful and premeditated murder; but this appears to have been done at the monarch's own request, and was liable to be rescinded at his pleasure.—*James IV. Act. 97.*

that it maintained their kings in decent magnificence by the revenues of the crown lands, 'prevented the subjects from being harassed by loans, benevolences, and other oppressive arts, which were so often employed by the princes of Europe their contemporaries.' Yet as the government had very seldom sufficient strength to guard the unarmed members of society from assassination and pillage, arrayed under the banners of a factious nobleman, it may be doubted, whether the extortion and despotism of a seventh or an eighth Henry might not be more tolerable than the domestic tyranny*, and murderous ravages committed by the satellites of a Douglas, a Hume, a Sinclair, or a Hamilton.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME WONDERFUL NATURAL CURIOSITIES IN CARNIOLA; PARTICULARLY OF THE LAKE OF CIRKNITZ, AND THE QUICKSILVER MINES.

IN Carniola, which is a duchy of Germany, in the circle of Austria, is the celebrated Lake of Cirknitz, which takes its name from the neighbouring market-town. It is one German mile in length from north to south, half a German mile in breadth, and from one to two, three, and four fathoms deep; but some of the pits are many fathoms deep. In this lake are three beautiful islands covered with trees: these islands are called

* It appears that each great man had courts, held by power delegated from the crown, with 'foc, fac*, pit, and gallows, toill and hame, in-fang thief and out-fang thief;' he had power to 'hald courts for slaughter; and to doe justice upon ane man that is seised theirwith in hand havand, or on back bealand.'

* Pit for drowning some offenders, particularly women.

called Vornec, Velh Goriza, and Mala Goriza. A peninsula also runs into it, and is separated from the island of Vornec by a canal. There are many holes or pits in the lake, with long ditches like canals; and it receives the waters of eight brooks.

It is a common saying, that in this lake a person may sow and reap, hunt and fish, within the space of a year; but this is the least remarkable circumstance in it, and no more than what may be said of almost any other spot that is overflowed in winter or spring. The most wonderful circumstance is its ebbing and flowing. The former always happens in a long drought, when it runs off through eighteen holes at the bottom, which form so many eddies or whirlpools. Baron Valvafor mentions a singular way of fishing in one of these holes, called Ribescajama: he says, that when the water is entirely run off into its subterraneous reservoirs, the peasants venture with lights into that cavity, which is in a hard rock, three or four fathoms under ground, to a solid bottom; whence the water running through small holes, as through a sieve, the fish are left behind, caught, as it were, in a net provided by nature.

At the first appearance of its ebbing, a bell is rung at Cirknitz, upon which all the peasants in the neighbouring villages prepare, with the utmost diligence, for fishing; for the greatest part of the fish generally go off at the beginning of the ebb, and seldom stay till the water is considerably decreased. Above a hundred peasants never fail to exert themselves on this occasion, and both men and women run promiscuously into the lake, stripped quite naked, although both the magistrates and the clergy have used their utmost endeavours to suppress this improper custom, particularly on account of the young lay brothers of a neighbouring convent, who have the privilege of fishing there; and, notwithstanding the prohibitions of the fathers, leave the convent in order to see this uncommon scene. The peasants, however, are not observed to be guilty of
more

more indecency at these times than at others, when they are clothed. At these ebbings, an incredible number of pike, trout, tench, eels, carp, perch, &c. are caught in the lake, and what are not consumed, or disposed of while fresh, are dried by the fire.

Though every part of the lake is left dry, two or three pools excepted, yet, Mr Keysser says, immediately on the return of the water, it abounds in fish as much as it did before; and the fish that return with the water are of a very large size, particularly pikes weighing fifty or sixty pounds. It is also remarkable, that when it begins to rain hard, three of the cavities spout up water to the height of two or three fathoms; and if the rain continues, and is accompanied with violent thunder, the water bubbles out of all the holes through which it had been absorbed, two of them excepted, and the whole lake is again filled with water in twenty-four, and often in eighteen hours. Sometimes, not only fish, but live ducks with grass and fish in their stomachs, have emerged out of these cavities. The abbe Fortis has described a lake, possessing the like remarkable quality, in Dalmatia.

In a rock on one side of this lake, but considerably higher than its surface, are two caverns, at some distance from each other; and, when it thunders, the water gushes out of both, with great noise and impetuosity. If this happens in autumn, they also eject a great many ducks, which are blind, very fat, and of a black colour; and, though they are, at first, almost bare of feathers, in a fortnight's time, or, at furthest, before the end of October, they are entirely fledged, recover their sight, and fly away. Each of these caverns is six feet high and as many broad; and when the water gushes out of them, it is in a large column of the same dimensions, and in a continual stream. There is a passage in each of these caverns, where a man may walk upright a considerable way; but it is said, that no person has ever yet ventured into them, to search into the nature

nature of the inner caves and reservoir to which these apertures lead; for there is no certainty but that, in an instant, he may be surprised by the water rushing upon him, with the force and rapidity of a fire-engine. Something very similar to this is likewise related by the abbe Fortis, in his account of Dalmatia.

When the lake ebbs early in the year, within twenty days time grass grows upon it, which is mowed down, and the bottom afterward sowed with millet: but if the water does not run off early, nothing can be sown; and if it soon returns, as it sometimes does, the seed is lost: otherwise, after the millet harvest, all manner of game is hunted and shot in it.

Adlersberg is a market-town of Inner Carniola, situate at the foot of a high rocky mountain, on which stands a citadel. About half way up the acclivity of this mountain, is the entrance into a large cavern, that is divided into a great number of subterraneous passages. The eye is here delighted with viewing a great number of sparry icicles, formed on the arched roof of this vast cavern, by the exudations of a lapideous or petrifying fluid, which form the most beautiful decorations. The sides are covered with all kinds of figures formed by the same exudations, to which the imagination of the spectator gives various forms never intended by nature; so that it is not at all strange that some people should make out dragons, heads of horses, tigers, and other animals. Several pillars, which are to be seen on each side, proceed from the droppings of the petrifying fluid from the top, which form a kind of sparry pillar on the bottom of the cave: this gradually increases, till, at last, it joins the icicle at the top, by meeting it about half-way, and thus a complete pillar is formed. If a person's curiosity will carry him so far, he may rove about two German miles in the subterraneous passages of this cavern. The present earl of Bristol (bishop of Derry) visited a similar cavern in Dalmatia, in company with the abbe Fortis.

It is remarkable, that the river Poig, which rises in this mountain, about four English miles from Adlerfberg, runs again to it with an inverted course, and loses itself near the entrance of the cavern, falling by a great depth into the rock, as is evident from its roaring noise, and the sound caused by flinging a stone into the hole. The same river appears again near Plannina; but, soon after, it loses itself a second time in a rock, and at length emerges a third time, when it assumes the name of the Laubach, at the town of that name.

About two German miles from Adlerfberg, is another remarkable cavern, called St Magdalen's Cave. The way to it being covered with stones and bushes, is extremely troublesome; but the great fatigue in going is compensated by the satisfaction of seeing such an extraordinary cavern. You first descend into a hole, where the earth seems to have fallen in for ten paces before you reach the entrance, which resembles a fissure in a huge rock caused by an earthquake. Here the torches are always lighted to conduct travellers; for the cave is extremely dark. This wonderful cavern seems as if divided into several large halls, and other apartments. The vast number of pillars with which it is ornamented by nature, give it a superb appearance, and are extremely beautiful, for they are as white as snow, and have a kind of transparent lustre, not unlike that of white sugar-candy. The bottom is of the same materials, so that a person may imagine he is walking among the ruins of some stately palace, amid noble pillars and columns, partly mutilated and partly entire. From the top sparry icicles are seen every where suspended, in some places resembling wax tapers, which, from their radiant whiteness, appear extremely beautiful. All the inconvenience here arises from the inequality of the bottom, which may make the spectator stumble, while he is viewing the beauties above and around him.

At

At Idria, a small town in this part of Carniola, seated in a deep valley amid high mountains, on the banks of the river Idria, are the celebrated quicksilver mines discovered in 1497. Before that time, this part of the country was inhabited only by a few coopers and other artificers in wood; but, one evening, a cooper having placed a new tub under a dropping spring, in order to try whether it would hold water, when he came, in the morning, to take the tub away, found it so heavy, that he could hardly move it. At first, the superstitious notions that are apt to possess the minds of the ignorant made him suspect that his tub was bewitched; but, at last, perceiving a shining fluid at the bottom, and not knowing what to make of it, he went to Laubach, where he shewed it to an apothecary, who being an artful man, dismissed him with a small present, and desired him to bring some more of the same fluid whenever he could meet with it. This the cooper frequently did, being highly pleased with his good luck; but the affair being at last made public, several persons formed themselves into a society, in order to search further into the quicksilver mine. In their possession it continued, till Charles duke of Austria, perceiving the great importance of such a work, gave them a sum of money, as a compensation for the expences they had inturred, and took it into his own hands.

The subterraneous passages of the mine are so extensive, that it would take up several hours to go through them. The greatest perpendicular depth, including from the entrance of the shaft, is 840 feet; but as they advance horizontally under a high mountain, the depth would be much greater if measured from the surface of the hill. One way of descending the shaft is by a bucket; but, as the entrance is narrow, the bucket is liable to strike against the sides, or to be stopped by something in the way, so that it may easily overturn. The other way of going down is safer: this is, descending

descending by a great number of ladders, placed obliquely, in a kind of zig-zag; but as the ladders are wet and narrow, a person must be very cautious how he steps, to prevent his falling. On descending, there are resting-places, in some parts, that are very welcome to the weary traveller. In some of the subterranean passages the heat is so intense, as to throw a man into a perfect sweat; and formerly, in some of these shafts, the air was extremely confined, so that several miners have been suffocated by a kind of igneous vapour called the damp; but, by sinking the main shaft deeper, this has been prevented. Near the main is a large wheel, and an hydraulic machine, by which all the water is raised out of the bottom of the mine.

Virgin mercury is that which is prepared by nature, and is found in some of the ores of this mine, in a multitude of little drops of pure quicksilver. This is also to be met with in a kind of clay, and sometimes flows down the passages or fissures of the mine, in a small continued stream, so that a man has frequently gathered, in six hours, above thirty-six pounds of virgin mercury, which bears a higher price than common quicksilver. The rest is extracted from cinnabar (which is the ore of quicksilver) by the force of fire.

Every common miner receives, in wages, three shillings and sixpence a week; but many of them are afflicted with a nervous disorder, accompanied with violent tremblings, sudden convulsive motions of the hands and legs, and frightful distortions of the face. Those are most subject to these disorders who work in the places where virgin mercury is found, which, in a surprising manner, insinuates itself into their bodies; so that when they go into a warm bath, or are put into a profuse sweat by steam, drops of pure mercury have been known to issue through the pores from all parts of the body. These mines are often infested with rats and mice, which feed on the crumbs of bread, &c. dropped by the miners at their meals; but this
C plague

plague seldom lasts long, for even they are seized with the like convulsive disorders as the men, which soon kills them. It is deemed a necessary precaution for every person to eat, before he descends into these subterraneous regions:

All the adjacent country is very woody; but that the woods may not be destroyed, great quantities of fuel for the smelting furnaces are annually brought down the river Idria, from some forests at the distance of five or six miles. Beside this river, there is a canal two miles in length, supplied with water by several streams issuing from perennial springs, in order to put in motion the machines belonging to the mines.

DESCRIPTION OF PEKIN,

FROM ANDERSON'S EMBASSY.

AT two in the afternoon we reached the gates of the imperial city of Pekin, or Pit-chin, as pronounced by the natives. The walls inclose a circumference of twelve leagues. In the centre of each angle is a grand gate or entrance, and a lesser one at each corner of the ramparts. They are all of strong stone arch work, and fortified by a tower of seven stories, rising over each. The gates indeed are double: the inner is of the same form as the first, except that it has no tower; and between them are barracks for soldiers. Ordnance and troops are stationed at every gate; and though the olive branch of peace blesses Pekin with almost a perpetual shade, the arts of defence and of prudent caution are neither neglected nor unknown. At ten every night the gates are shut, and till dawn of day all communication is suspended between the city and the suburbs. During that space, a special order

from

from the principal mandarin of the city is absolutely necessary to procure ingress or egress.

The walls are of great height; and of massy thickness; the foundation is of stone, but the superstructure is wholly of brick. Outworks and batteries at short intervals encrease the strength of the walls, and forts are very frequent, but except at the gates there are neither cannons nor guards. His imperial majesty generally resides here from October to April; and during that period, soldiers patrol the walls every night.

On the most moderate computation, from the south gate to the east gate is a space of ten miles. This was our route through Pekin; and every step presented some new object to arrest our attention. The streets are spacious, clean and commodious, well paved, and well regulated. An exact police is kept up; and as every public functionary, from the highest to the lowest, is attentive to the discharge of his duty, order, neatness and activity are every where perceptible. Large bodies of scavengers are employed in separate districts in removing every species of filth; and another class of men sprinkle the streets, to prevent the dust from incommoding passengers, or injuring the gaudy wares and elegant manufactures which every shop presents for sale.

In the capital, and indeed in almost every town in China, the pride of architectural elegance and embellishment seems to be chiefly displayed in the shops. The tradesmen wisely lay out the greatest expence in that apartment which brings them in the most profit; hence the shops in general are magnificent, while their domestic accommodations are neither numerous nor great. The houses here are low, but highly embellished in front, with galleries, paintings and golden characters. Fine pillars are erected at the doors of the shops, supporting a flag, which indicates the name and profession of the master of the house. These flags, with the intermixture of gilding, sculpture, and valuable

able commodities which attract the eye every moment, give an idea of splendor, which fancy can scarcely enlarge.

The butchers shops appear to be supplied with excellent meat. On entering one of them, to satisfy our curiosity in regard to the pieces of meat, and the mode of cutting it up, which last is nearly the same as our own, we observed an earthen stove with a gridiron. The butcher construing our signs into a want of meat, began cutting off and broiling small slices, which he continued to supply us with till we were satisfied. Perhaps we might consume about a pound; and on producing a string of caxee, the only coin allowed to be current in China, he took off one cenderon, or ten, as the price of his meat. In this manner I saw numbers feasting on beef and mutton.

In Pekin, as in every populous place in the world, numbers must be engaged in humble though useful trades in the streets. Many thousands here derive their livelihood from this source. These itinerant tradesmen, according to the nature of their business, either bear baskets over their shoulders, or carry a kind of pack. Street barbers are very numerous. These carry with them the implements of their trade, together with a chair, a small stove, and a water basin. Their customers sit down in the street, where the operation is performed with dispatch, and a mace is the general compliment to the operator. A pair of large steel tweezers, snapped with force gives the signal that the barber is at hand; and in a country where it is impossible that any person can entirely shave himself, if he complies with the established mode, this must be a lucrative trade.

Street auctioneers, apparently possessed of all the low eloquence and the vociferous exertions of that craft, present themselves frequently on a kind of platform.

The

The principal streets being of enormous length, are subdivided by arched gateways, under each of which the name of the partial street is written in gilt characters. These arches continually appearing, serve as central objects for the eye to repose on. The cross streets are terminated by small latticed gates; shut during the night; while the principal ones are incessantly guarded by soldiers, who are armed with swords and whips, to quell any disturbance, or to correct slighter irregularities.

We have before observed, that the chief care and expence is laid out on the shops, and except in the variety of their embellishments, an uniformity prevails in the height and extent of their houses. Few private buildings are more than one story high, and these are chiefly of wood. The imperial palace, however, the houses of the mandarins, and the pagodas, are distinguished by their superior elevation, as well as their magnificence.

Palanquins are the fashionable vehicles of the great, while covered carts, drawn by a horse or a mule, serve for the inferior classes.

An opinion has prevailed in Europe, that the Chinese women live secluded from view. The fact is otherwise: they frequently present themselves from the galleries in front of their houses; and amid the immense concourse that were assembled to view our procession, perhaps there were more women in proportion than we should have seen in any principal town of Europe.

The females of Pekin in general possess delicate features, the effects of which they heighten by cosmetics. They also apply vermillion to the middle of their lips, which certainly is not an unattractive addition to their beauty. Their eyes are small, but very expressive; and their brilliance is contrasted by a peak of black velvet or silk, set with stones, which depends from the forehead to the insertion of the nose. Their feet ap-

pear to be of the natural size. In fact, the women seem to enjoy as much liberty as is consistent with the delicacy of the sex; nor is jealousy, as far as we could judge, a predominant passion among the men. On observing a crowd of women, we addressed them with the word Chou-au, or beautiful, on which they gathered round us with an air of modest politeness, examined the make and texture of our clothes, and appeared to be vastly entertained. They did not decline a gentle shake of the hand, on one of our party taking leave; nor did the men who were present seem dissatisfied with our attention or their condescension.

In our way through the city, we met a funeral procession. The coffin was covered by a rich canopy, with silk curtains, highly ornamented, and hung with escutcheons. It was placed on a large bier, and had a great number of men to support it, who advanced with a slow and solemn step. A band of music followed, playing a kind of dirge; and after them came the friends and relations of the deceased, in dresses of black and white.

Passing the eastern suburbs, we again entered a rich and beautiful country, and soon arrived at Yeumen-manyeumen, one of the Emperor's palaces, distant about five miles from the city. Here we found rather a scanty and indifferent refreshment; but being much fatigued, the idea of rest was our most acceptable gratification.

AN ACCOUNT OF SOME EXTRAORDINARY NATURAL
AND ARTIFICIAL CURIOSITIES IN POLAND; PAR-
TICULARLY OF THE WONDERFUL SALT MINES IN
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF CRACOW.

[From The History of Poland, from its Origin as a Na-
tion, to the Commencement of the Year 1795.]

AMONG the natural Curiosities of Poland, must be reckoned the wild men that have been found in the woods of that country. The frequent incursions of the Tartars and other barbarous nations, who often bore off whole villages of people into slavery, probably forced the women to carry their children into the woods for safety, and, in case of farther pursuit, to leave them behind; for they are frequently found among bears and other wild beasts, by whom they are nourished, and taught to feed like them. Such beings have been frequently found in the woods of both Poland and Germany, divested of almost all the properties of humanity, except the form. Those that have been taken went generally upon all fours, though sometimes they stood upright. They had not the use of speech at first, but were taught to speak when brought into towns, and used kindly; retaining no memory of their former savage lives when they came to be humanized, and made conversable by cultivation.

The salt mines of the country are striking objects of natural curiosity. These are wonderful caverns, several hundred yards deep, at the bottom of which are many intricate windings and labyrinths. Out of these are dug four different kinds of salts; one extremely hard, like crystal, another, softer, but clearer; a third, white, but brittle; these are all brackish; but the fourth is somewhat fresher. These four kinds are dug in different mines near the city of Cracow; on one side of them is a stream of salt water; and on the other,

one

one of fresh. The revenue arising from these and other salt-mines is very considerable, and formed part of the royal revenue, till they were seized by the emperor, being situated within the provinces which he dismembered from Poland; the annual average profit of that of Wielitska was 3,500,000 Polish florins, or 97,222l. 4s. 6d. sterling. The latter, indeed, is the most considerable salt-mine in the world, and from it a great part of the continent is supplied with that article. Wielitska is a small town about eight miles from Cracow: the mine is excavated in a ridge of hills at the northern extremity of the chain which joins to the Carpathian mountains, and has been wrought above 600 years, for they are mentioned in the Polish annals so early as 1237 under Boleslaus the Chaste, and not then as a new discovery: how much earlier they were known cannot be ascertained.

There are eight openings or descents into this mine, six in the field, and two in the town itself, which are mostly used for letting down the workmen, and taking up the salt; the others being chiefly used for letting in wood and other necessaries.

The openings are five feet square, and about four wide; they are lined throughout with timber, and at the top of each there is a large wheel with a rope as thick as a cable, by which things are let down and drawn up; and this is worked by a horse. When a stranger has the curiosity to see the works, he must descend by one of these holes; he is first to put on a miner's coat over his clothes, and then being led to the mouth of the hole by a miner, who serves for a guide, the miner fastens a smaller rope to the large one, and ties it about himself; he sits in this, and taking the stranger in his lap, gives the sign to be let down. When several go down together, the custom is, that when the first is let down about three-yards the wheel stops, and another miner takes another rope, ties himself, takes another in his lap, and descends about three
yards

yards farther; the wheel then stops for another pair, and so on till the whole company are seated, then the wheel is again worked, and the whole string of adventurers are let down together. It is no uncommon thing for forty people to go down in this manner. When the wheel is finally set a-going, it never stops till they are all down; but the descent is very slow and gradual, and it is a very uncomfortable time, while they all recollect that their lives depend on the goodness of the rope. They are carried down a narrow and dark well to the depth of six hundred feet perpendicular; this is in reality an immense depth, but the terror and tediousness of the descent makes it appear to most people vastly more than it is. As soon as the first miner touches the ground at the bottom, he slips out of the rope and sets his companion upon his legs, and the rope continues descending till all the rest do the same.

The place where they are set down is perfectly dark, but the miners strike fire and light a small lamp, by means of which (each taking the stranger he has care of by the arm) they lead them through a number of strange passages and meanders, all descending lower and lower, till they come to certain ladders by which they descend an immense depth, and this through passages perfectly dark. The damp, cold, and darkness of these places, and the horror of being so many yards under ground, generally make strangers heartily repent before they get thus far; but when at bottom they are well rewarded for their pains, by a sight that could never have been expected after so much horror.

At the bottom of the last ladder the stranger is received in a small dark cavern, walled up perfectly close on all sides. To increase the terror of the scene, it is usual for the guide to pretend the utmost terror on the apprehension of his lamp going out, declaring they must perish in the mazes of the mine if it did. When arrived in this dreary chamber, he puts out his light,

as if by accident, and after much cant catches the stranger by the hand and drags him through a narrow creek into the body of the mine, when there bursts at once upon his view, a world, the lustre of which is scarcely to be imagined. It is a spacious plain, containing a whole people, a kind of subterraneous republic, with houses, carriages, roads, &c. This is wholly scooped out of one vast bed of salt, which is all a hard rock, as bright and glittering as crystal, and the whole space before him is formed of lofty arched vaults, supported by columns of salt, and roofed and floored with the same, so that the columns and indeed the whole fabric, seem composed of the purest crystal.

They have many public lights in this place continually burning for the general use, and the blaze of those reflected from every part of the mine, gives a more glittering prospect than any thing above ground can possibly exhibit. Were this the whole beauty of the spot, it were sufficient to attract our wonder; but this is only a small part. The salt (though generally clear and bright as crystal) is in some places tinged with all the colours of precious stones, as blue, yellow, purple, and green; there are numerous columns wholly composed of these kinds, and they look like masses of rubies, emeralds, amethysts, and sapphires, darting a radiance which the eye can hardly bear, and which has given many people occasion to compare it to the supposed magnificence of heaven.

Beside the variety of forms in these vaults, tables, arches, and columns, which are framed as they dig out the salt for the purpose of keeping up the roof, there is a vast variety of others, grotesque and finely figured, the work of nature, and these are generally of the purest and brightest salt.

The roofs of the arches are in many places full of salt, hanging pendent from the top in the form of icicles, and having all the hues and colours of the rainbow; the walks are covered with various congelations
of

of the same kind, and the very floors, when not too much trodden and battered, are covered with globules of the same sort of beautiful materials.

In various parts of this spacious plain stand the huts of the miners and families, some standing single, and others in clusters like villages. They have very little communication with the world above ground, and many hundreds of people are born and live all their lives here.

Through the midst of this plain lies the great road to the mouth of the mine. This road is always filled with carriages loaded with masses of salt out of the farther part of the mine, and carrying them to the place where the rope belonging to the wheel receives them; the drivers of these carriages are all merry and singing, and the salt looks like a load of gems. The horses kept here are a very great number, and when once let down, they never see the day-light again; but some of the men take frequent occasions of going up and breathing the fresh air. The instruments principally used by the miners are pick axes, hammers, and chisels; with these they dig out the salt in form of huge cylinders each of many hundred weight. This is found the most convenient method of getting them out of the mine, and as soon as got above ground, they are broken into smaller pieces, and sent to the mills, where they are ground to powder. The finest sort of the salt is frequently cut into toys, and often passes for real crystal. This hard kind makes a great part of the floor of the mine; and what is most surprising in the whole place is, that there runs constantly over this, and through a large part of the mine, a spring of fresh water, sufficient to supply the inhabitants and their horses, so that they need not have any from above ground. The horses usually grow blind after they have been some little time in the mine, but they do as well for service afterward as before.

After

After admiring the wonders of this amazing place, it is no very comfortable remembrance to the stranger, that he is to go back again through the same dismal way he came, and indeed the journey is not much better than the prospect; the only means of getting up is by the rope, and little more ceremony is used in the journey than in the drawing up of a piece of salt.

The salt dug from this mine is called Ziebna, or green salt, but for what reason it is difficult to determine, its colour being an iron grey; when pounded, it has a dirty ash colour, like what we call brown salt. The mine appears to be inexhaustible, as will easily be conceived from the following account of its dimensions, given by Mr Coxe: its known breadth (says he) is 1115 feet, its length 6691 feet, and depth 743; this, however, is to be understood only of the part which has been actually worked; as to the real depth, or longitudinal extent to the mine, it is not possible to conjecture.

Under the mountains adjoining to Kiow, on the frontiers of Russia, and in the deserts of Podolia, are several catacombs, or subterranean vaults, which the ancients used for burying places, and where a great number of human bodies are still preserved entire, though interred many ages since, having been better embalmed, and become neither so hard nor so black as the Egyptian mummies. Among them are two princes in the habits they used to wear. It is thought that this preserving quality is owing to the nature of the soil, which is dry and sandy.

Of antiquities Poland can boast of but few, as ancient Sarmatia was never perfectly known to the Romans themselves.

Its artificial curiosities also are not numerous, consisting chiefly of the gold, silver, and enamelled vessels presented by the kings and prelates of Poland, and preserved in the cathedral of Gnesna.

JAMBICS ON T. PAINE,

BY MR PIRRIE OF NEWBURGH.

TO THOMAS PAINE IN PRISON.

AH Liberty! Thou'rt a sad Gipsey!
With strong drink surely thou wast tipsy
The day thou gav'st up Thomas Paine,
A victim bound in tyrants' chain!
—Of all his toil is this the end?
Is this thy kindness to thy friend?
Who for thy sake, in warm devotion,
Has cross'd the vast Atlantic ocean,
To give all nations liberty——
From laws of God, and men set free!

O Thomas Paine! Hadst thou but serv'd
Our God, nor from his precepts swerv'd;
Hadst thou him serv'd with half the zeal,
Wherewith you've serv'd the vile *Canaille*;
True freedom, hadst thou understood,
Is Liberty to do what's good;
And that a freedom to do evil,
Is but the freedom of the devil.
In Virtue's paths hadst thou but trod,
Honour'd the King, and fear'd thy God;
Soon hadst thou known that wisdom pays
With peace the man that keeps her ways;
Heav'n had not left thee thus forlorn
Of each vile Jacobine the scorn;
From prison thou hadst still been free,
And a true son of liberty.

But now a prisoner enslav'd,
Of all true Liberty bereav'd,
For crimes and follies unrepented,
Thou'lt die of all men unlamented—

The British mob, the Cordeliere,
 The Jacobine, yea Roberfpierre;
 Thy Brother-Blacks will thee despise,
 And view thy fate with tearless eyes.
 Then thou shalt know the end of sin—
 The Gallows or the Guillotine:
 And what's beyond?—Behold a pit!
 —A certain perf'nage rules in it—
 There, bound in an eternal chain,
 Thou'lt know the proper place of *Pain*.

THOMAS PAINE IN PRISON—PUBLISHING LIBELS
 AGAINST RELIGION.

OLD Satan from the pit discharg'd,
 To roam o'er all the earth enlarg'd,
 Oft publish'd lies—meant to deceive
 The dupes, who the false tale believe;
 Yet (as the holy volumes tell)
 When he shall be shut up in hell—
 When to the dark abyfs confin'd,
 No more he'll tempt the human kind;
 By serpent-wiles he'll cheat no more,
 Nor fright us by his lion-roar.
 But Thomas Paine, that worthless Pagan,
 More wicked than infernal dragon,
 Free, or confin'd employs his time
 To plan or perpetrate a crime.
 This younger De'il, more artful rather
 And more mischievous than his father,
 Tho' bound in a Parisian cell—
 An emblem of the lowest hell—
 Tho' now from haunts of men he's driven,
 Deceives mankind, outrages heav'n—
 First on the laws of men he trod,
 And now he spurns the laws of God—

Pours

Pours from his pit blasphemous lies,
Volumes of smoke to blind our eyes,
And, under the most sly pretences,
He cheats mankind out of their senses.
—Thus a young Fairy-wicked elf—
Out' devils th' aged devil himself!

ON THE REASON OF THOMAS PAINE'S
IMPRISONMENT.

IS Thomas Paine in a French prison?
What has he done? Pray, What's the reason?
I'll tell thee, friend—and learn from thence
How strange the ways of Providence!—
This foe to kings, this mighty man,
This vi'lent stanch republican—
Who volumes wrote to prove a king
A hurtful or an useless thing—
Because he would not join the rage,
That doom'd poor Lewis to the stage,
Or for his murder saw no reason—
Now for a *king's sake* rots in prison!

AN ACCOUNT OF

HERMAN OF UNNA: *a Series of Adventures of the Fifteenth Century, in which the Proceedings of the Secret Tribunal, under the Emperors Winceslaus and Sigismond, are delineated. Written in German by Professor Cramer. 3 Vols 12mo.*

(From the Critical Review.)

FOR this singular and interesting novel we are indebted to the pen of professor Kramer, the author

of many literary productions. It has for its groundwork the account of an institution of which the traces are found in history, though so obscure and imperfect, that its very name is probably known to but few. This institution is *the secret tribunal, or free courts and judges of Westphalia*,—a most extraordinary court, which is first mentioned as an establishment publicly known in the year 1211, and which, towards the end of the 14th and beginning of the 15th century, suddenly rose to power so formidable as to strike terror into all Germany. It consisted at that time of more than a hundred thousand members, taken from all ranks and professions, who were bound by a tremendous oath to pursue and put to death any man or woman condemned by the tribunal, though their nearest friend or relation. Their jurisdiction was exercised under the veil of the most impenetrable secrecy, they were not known except to one another; so that the unhappy man who had become obnoxious to them was surrounded with invisible spies, whom he ate and drank and conversed with without suspicion, while at the same time their eyes were upon his most indifferent actions, and their dagger was pointed at his breast. As it is probable that no institution, however absurd and oppressive in its progress, was ever *begun* without a view to utility, it is to be presumed that this tribunal was well calculated in its origin to remedy the imperfect administration of justice through the German empire, and to execute its decrees with a celerity and impartiality which could cause the greatest criminals to tremble. By degrees, however, it grew so formidable and corrupt, that there was no safety for persons of birth and fortune, but by being admitted into the order. Every prince had some free judges in this council, many princes sought admission themselves, and in those days, more gentlemen were free judges, than have since been free masons. By degrees, as the princes acquired more power in their respective domi-

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tions, this tribunal was difused, though there still remain some vestiges of it in the county of Mark and the duchy of Westphalia. These and further particulars may be collected from an essay prefixed to these volumes, extracted from Baron Bock.

The scene of these adventures is laid in the latter end of the 14th and beginning of the 15th century, partly at Prague, the court of the emperor Winceflaus, and partly at various courts of Germany. It gives a striking picture of the manners of that age, and is interwoven with many traits of history relative to Sigismund king of Hungary, queen Barbe, so famous for her gallantries, the empress Sophia, and others.

The two persons upon whom the narrative more particularly turns, are Herman of Unna, and Ida Munster. Herman is a younger brother of a younger branch of the counts of Unna, who, not being inclined to the church to which his family had devoted him, seeks his fortune in the court of Winceflaus, and afterwards of Sigismund. Dangerous as is his situation from the dissoluteness of morals around him, he preserves the purest and most amiable manners, and, by his bravery and address, renders the greatest services to his masters. Ida, with whom he falls in love, is the supposed daughter of Munster, a rich statuary, but in reality the daughter of the count of Wirtemberg, stolen when an infant, by her nurse, the wife of Munster. The character of Munster is grave, sensible, and shrewd; his wife is governed by her passions, and has a strong tincture of vanity and female cunning. She contrives to introduce her supposed daughter at court, with a compliment to the empress on her nuptials; and Ida becomes so much the favourite of Sophia, as to excite the jealousy of the ladies of the court, and by the artifice of her enemies, she is accused before the secret tribunal of having practised witchcraft upon the empress. The mysterious solemnity of this scene is wonderfully calculated to affect the imagination. Ida one

morning receives from her woman a note containing the following citation :

"Ida Munster! sorceress! accused of murder, of high treason! appear! We, the secret avengers of the Eternal, cite thee within three days before the tribunal of God! appear! appear!"

"Good Heavens!" exclaimed Ida, when by the assistance of her woman she was brought to herself: "did I see clearly? give me that note." She read it: it fell from her hands: and pale and trembling she sat down on her chair.

The servant then related, that in the morning she had found the parchment nailed to the door that led to Ida's apartment: at first she paid no attention to it, because she could not read; but the people, who were assembled in crowds, informed her of its contents, and ordered her, with threats, to carry it to the person to whom it was addressed.

Ida listened to her tale, half dead with fear, and scarcely knowing what she heard. Had she been more collected she would have perceived, in the looks of those about her, an indignation and contempt, which would have appeared to her extraordinary from persons by whom she had been incessantly flattered.

"O God! what have I done? and what am I now to do?" cried Ida, clasping her hands, and lifting her eyes to heaven.

"What you have done," said her women, "is best known to yourself: and as to what you have now to do, it is not for us to advise. We must instantly leave you, lest the vengeance of heaven should pursue us also."

"And will you abandon me?" said Ida to the young woman who had brought her the billet, and who, affected by her situation, had thrown herself at her feet, and watered them with her tears.

"Tell me in what I can serve you, and I will stay."

"Run

"Run to the princess of Ratibor, and tell her tell her only . . . yet tell her all: describe to her my distressed situation: let her advise me what to do. God only knows what has brought on me this calamity."

"The young woman went, and soon returned, bringing back for answer that the princess knew no such person."

"In like manner Ida sent to several other ladies of the court, and equally to no purpose. She then recollected the duke of Bavaria, and the count of Wirtemberg, who had always shewn a regard for her. To them she sent also, and received for answer, that she must have recourse to God, if her conscience were pure: as to advice, they could give her none, except that of not failing to appear in compliance with the citation, as, at any rate her life was at stake."

"Appear!" said Ida: "where must I appear? Did you ask where the secret tribunal is held?"

"The girl was silent."

"My life too at stake!" exclaimed the unfortunate Ida, after a long and gloomy silence. "Heavens! what have I done? Am I not innocent?"

"God send you may be:" answered her woman, sobbing.

"Yes, I call Heaven to witness that I am. I swear it by him who lives for ever."

"Having remained some time on her knees, covering her face with her hands, and seemingly in prayer, she at length arose, and continued thus:—"What said the count of Wirtemberg? Was it not that I must seek consolation from God?" Be it so. "God has already comforted me; he will comfort me still more by the mouth of his ministers. Give me my hood: I will go to church, and confess myself. The reverend father John will tell me what to do."

"Oh! do not run such a risk: the people are excited against you, and may do you some mischief."

"Give

"Give me my hood: I may risk every thing, for what have I to lose?"

"No doubt it will be useless for me to attend you."

"Do as you please."

Ida set off, without once looking round her. She muffled herself up as much as possible in her hood, that she might not be known. At every corner she heard her name-coupled with imprecations. The people seemed better informed than herself of what she was accused. The appellations of wretch, criminal, forcerers, passed from mouth to mouth without further explanation: at last she gathered from some expressions that dropped from a company walking before her, that the crime with which she was charged was committed against her dearest friend, her adored Sophia. More than once she was near sinking to the earth, her legs failed her, and she was obliged to lean against the wall.

When she arrived at the church, where she sought counsel and consolation from the only friend she had left, her confessor, night was advancing. Silently she passed along the gloomy cloisters of the hallowed fane, and placed herself in an obscure corner, to wait for father John. Whether this father John were the famous confessor of the empress, St John Nepomucenes, whose name is still so celebrated for his discretion, our memoirs do not inform us: St Nepomucenes himself, however, could not have given more striking proofs of his love of taciturnity, than did our father John, when this afflicted sinner, or saint let us rather call her, laid open to his view the inmost recesses of her heart.

She concealed nothing from him; she wept, she sighed, she asked his counsel . . . and still he was silent. She urgently implored him to bestow on her one word, one simple word of consolation. After a long pause, he ventured to say: "Go; clear yourself from the crime of which you are accused, and then I will grant you absolution."

"But

"But what must I do? I am cited to the bar of justice by I know not whom; I am to make my appearance I know not where."

"Appear."

"And who will be my judges?"

"Those terrible unknown mortals, who render justice in secret."

"Where do they assemble?"

"Every where, and no where."

'Ida bathed in tears, ceased to question this flinty-hearted priest; and he rose to go away.

"Have pity on me! have pity on me!" cried she, holding him by his gown: "it is now night: grant me an asylum till the morning in this convent, or give me at least a guide to conduct me home in safety."

"The holy sisters who dwell here will not receive you, nor will any one accompany you."

'Ida covered her face with her hood, and wept afresh. A moment after she looked round, and found herself alone. The great lamp suspended from the centre of the church shed a feeble light. Rising, she walked with trembling steps through the winding of the sacred vaults, and by the least frequented streets of the city, till she arrived at her own habitation. She no longer wept; a kind of torpid insensibility had seized her faculties. She called to her servant to bring a light: no one answered. She entered the anti-chamber, and the apartments of her women: they were empty.—"I am totally abandoned, then!" said she, as she entered her own chamber. "Heavens! how have I deserved this fate? Is there no difference between accusation and conviction? Am I in reality guilty? They say, that it is possible to sin without knowing it. Yes, yes: it must be so, and I am certainly a guilty wretch, since every one considers me as such, and the holy father John has refused me absolution."

"Ida

‘Ida was in that terrible situation, from which there is but a step to madness and despair, when she heard an indistinct noise in the anti-chamber. The door opened, and some one called her by her name.

“Who is there? and what is thy errand?” said she, in a voice more of alarm and horror than of anger.

“Ida! my poor unhappy Ida!” continued the stranger, in accents of the most tender affection.

‘Ida rose from the floor, on which she was lying. The figure, which was then discernible, by means of a lantern it carried, approached nearer.

“Who art thou? Art thou one of those terrible and unknown beings, who render justice in secret?”

“Do you then no longer know me? Do you not know your father?” cried the person who entered; and saying this, he rendered the light of his lantern more vivid, threw off his cloak, and clasped her in his embrace.

“My father, my saviour! angel sent from Heaven!” were the words she had just time to articulate, before she fainted in his arms.’ Vol. i. p. 221.

Munster, upon inquiring into the nature of the affair, gives the following account of the tribunal.

“By unexpected good luck I found my ancient comrade in the army, the good Walter of whom you have heard me speak, who at the surprise of Bern had the misfortune to lose his hand, and was in consequence obliged to quit the profession of arms. He has told me a great many circumstances of the secret tribunal, but his discourse was so obscure, so interlarded with broken expressions, and half formed sentences, that I know not what to think of him. There were, he informed me, persons of various descriptions, knights and their esquires, citizens as well as nobles, in its services. Perhaps he belongs to it himself. Be that, however, as it may, he assured me, that its dreadful summoners were commonly obliged to resort to force to bring before them the persons who were accused:

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that it was rare for a culprit to appear on the first citation; that they who waited for a second, or a third, were apprehended wherever they were found; but those who appeared at the first, as you, my dear Ida, will do, had the advantage of inspiring a presumption of their innocence, and were treated with greater lenity. And finally, that the only way of discovering where the secret tribunal assembled, was to repair, three quarters of an hour after midnight, to that part of the town where four streets meet, and where was always to be found a person who would lead the accused blind-folded before the judges.

"I thanked him for his information, and told him that you would carefully observe his directions, and that I was determined to accompany you. Walter, upon this, looked me stedfastly in the face, and asked if I were one of them. Not knowing what was his drift, I made no answer. He looked at me again with still greater earnestness, uttering some incoherent words which I did not understand. Still I was silent. 'Well,' resumed he after a moment's pause, 'we shall see whether you will be permitted to accompany her. At any rate, however, you may be certain she will arrive in safety at the place of destination; the rest depends on her innocence.'"

'Whence could proceed the sort of tranquillity, which this mysterious tale of Munster imparted to Ida? for certain it is that she felt relieved from the load that oppressed her, spoke of her situation with composure, formed arrangements respecting the manner in which she should conduct herself, and sought to penetrate the obscurity in which she was involved. It seemed no longer impossible to her to support her misfortune, to face her accusers, and yet survive the shock.

'Was it that Ida really discovered reasons for hope in what she had heard? Or was it with her, as with a multitude of others who sink at the first gust of an approaching storm, but gradually lift up their heads, as
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the object of their terror becomes familiar to them? Or was it, lastly, that there are benevolent genii ever ready to administer to their favourites, when their sufferings become too poignant, and mingle in the cup of bitterness some drops of heavenly consolation?

‘ Whatever were the cause, Ida suddenly became tranquil; she enjoyed during the night the peaceful slumbers of innocence, while her father sat watching by her pillow, and for the two following days she remained in the same happy state.

‘ At length the night, lately so much dreaded, approached, but brought with it no other terrors, than what a light supper, which the old man had provided, assisted by a glass of wine, were sufficient to dispel. Could their enemies have witnessed the serenity of these two victims of so cruel a fate, it would have inspired them with sensations of envy: their conversation was even gay.

‘ Time passed on. The clock struck twelve, and they scarcely seemed to notice it. “When the moon is over yon steeple, it will be time for us to be gone,” said Munster, looking out of the window. Their conversation, however, presently slackened, and at length ceased. The fears of Ida began to return.—“How my heart beats!” said she, laying her hand on her bosom. She walked up and down the room with agitation.—“Where,” said she, “is the moon now?”—“It is . . . Take your hood my child, and let us depart.”—“Yet one moment,” she replied: and falling on her knees she sighed a short prayer, while Munster re-echoed her sighs. She then put on her hood and they hurried out of the house.

‘ Silently they walked through the streets in which not a person was to be seen. The knees of Ida trembled with cold, while her cheeks were flushed with the crimson fever. They arrived at the great steeple of St Bartholomew’s, where met four large streets leading to the extremities of the city. “Behold, my fa-
ther,

ther, the designated place!" said Ida, with a faltering voice. The moon shone on the spot, while a deep shadow cast its gloom over the distant avenues. Near them, in one of the streets, they saw a man approaching, with slow and solemn steps, whom the dim light of the moon, and the terrors of Ida, transformed into a giant. He was wrapt in a kind of mail, so that his eyes only were visible. He accosted them.—"Who are you?" said he.—"Ida Munster and her father."

"It is the former I seek. The other may withdraw."

"No, I will not withdraw; I will follow her wherever she goes."

"You will follow her? that depends on the manner in which you shall answer the following questions. What are the names of these four streets? That which is enlightened by the moon I myself call *fire*; that in the shade *iron*. What are the other two?"

"To this unintelligible question Munster made no reply."

"Begone," said the man in the mask: "thou dost not belong to us."

"Must I then quit you, my father; must I quit you?" exclaimed Ida, sobbing.

"The stranger tore her from the arms of Munster, and pushing him away, somewhat rudely, "Go," said he in a tone of voice too gentle to accord with the action that accompanied it: "you may safely trust your daughter to my care."

"Whose is that voice?" said Munster to himself as he seated himself under the portico of the church. "It is surely familiar to me." Meanwhile Ida was led off by her conductor, who turned once more towards Munster, made a signal to him not to follow, and was soon out of sight.

"Courteous reader, thou wishest, no doubt, to accompany this innocent maiden before her judges: but would it be safe for me to introduce thee to a place which no profane eye has yet explored? Rather let us

fit down with honest Munster in the porch of St Bartholomew's. Look: the moon has disappeared: the dawn begins to peep: we shall soon hear news of the object of our anxiety.

'Munster was as firmly persuaded as you and I can be, that she whom he called his daughter was innocent. Walter had assured him, the preceding day, that if she were found guilty he would never see her more, as these avengers of God caused the sentences they pronounced to be executed on the spot: but he had added, that if there were the least prospect of her justifying herself, she would be safely brought back to him in the morning, by the persons into whose hands he should commit her at night, at the junction of the four streets.

'Firmly relying on the innocence of Ida, the veracity of Walter, and the justice of the secret tribunal, he waited with tranquillity, and he waited not in vain: for, ere the inhabitants of the neighbouring houses were awake, his daughter was in his arms.

"Thou art restored to me, then!" cried Munster: "thou art restored to me! thou art innocent!"

'I am indeed innocent: I swear it by that God, who is my supreme judge; though no one will as yet declare me so. Alas! your poor Ida is restored to you but for a short time. The avenging sword, still suspended over her head, hangs but by a thread. It is required that I should justify myself; and how shall I be able to do this, since there is every appearance against me? Oh! my father!"

'Her sobs prevented her saying more; and leaning on the arm of Munster they silently walked towards their home. Arrived there, she sat down breathless, and resting her head on her hand, wiped her tears as they flowed under her hood.

"Tell me, my dear child, what has passed: conceal nothing from me."

"Alas!

"Alas! I have not long to remain with you. As a particular favour I am permitted to take up my residence with the Ursulines, for a short time, till my affair is finished and I am again summoned before my judges. Do not grieve, my dear father, you may see me there, I have asked leave to receive your visits."

'Munster pressed her hand with the earnestness of anxious affection, and again conjured her to relate her story.

"How shall I describe to you what I felt, when torn from your arms by my conductor? I thought I should have expired: yet a certain something, that I cannot describe, presently inspired me with confidence. You must yourself have perceived, that the man in the mask treated me neither with cruelty or even harshness; his voice was gentle: by the light of the moon I discovered a tear starting from his eye; and I perceived, a circumstance on which I could not avoid reflecting, that he had lost his left hand. Is it possible, that he could be your friend, the good, the honest Walter?"

"It was, it was," exclaimed the old man: "it certainly was Walter, for I now recollect the sound of his voice."

'Ida continued:—"That discovery calmed my agitation. I found myself not delivered entirely into unknown hands, and you have always spoken to me so highly of Walter, that with him I considered myself as safe. After having walked on for some time, he suddenly threw over my head a thick veil, which so completely covered my face, that it was impossible for me to discern the road we took. One while we passed over what appeared to me uncultivated ground, and then again over ruins: we ascended, and descended: sometimes I fancied myself breathing the air of the fields; at others the sound of our footsteps appeared to be echoed back by surrounding vaults. At length we descended thirty steps, which I counted, I know not why; and my veil being taken off, I found myself

in a dark dreary place, where at first I could distinguish nothing. Finding myself extremely fatigued, my conductor permitted me to sit down on a stone. By degrees my eyes became familiarised to the obscurity of the place, and I found myself at the entrance of a large square. Whether I were in the country, or not, I cannot say: but all around me, as far as my view could penetrate, I beheld lofty vaults; and over my head the starry sky. At a distance I observed by the light of torches, which, though they were many, but feebly illumined the vast space, serving scarcely more than to render darkness visible, human figures dressed in black, some of whom came towards us and joined my conductor. They were all masked like him, and conversed only by signs, intermingled with a few abrupt words. Every moment their number increased; and apparently there were several hundred of them. The silence that prevailed in this assembly, interrupted only by tears and sighs, appeared incomprehensible to me.

“On a sudden I heard the doleful sound of a bell. Three times was it struck; and as often did my heart quake within me. The place was now more enlightened, and I perceived a circle composed of several persons in black, and masked, who, I was informed by my conductor, were my judges.—‘You will immediately be called upon,’ said he to me in a whisper: ‘if your conscience be clear, prepare to answer with courage. Take off your hood, you must appear with your face uncovered.’

“Scarcely had he done speaking, when a voice more appalling than the sound of the bell, cried out in a tone of authority:

“Ida Munster! sorcerers! accused of murder, of high treason, appear! We, the secret avengers of the Invisible, cite thee before the justice of God! appear! appear!” Vol. i. P. 240.

Her second appearance before the same tribunal is thus described with the additional interest of the introduction of Herman as her defender.

‘The spot to which she was this time conducted seemed different from the former. Its canopy was the same, the starry heavens: but it did not appear to be encircled with lofty walls; on the contrary, the eye was unobstructed on every side, for the little way it could penetrate, except that on that by which they arrived were thick bushes, which probably surrounded the whole place, but were imperceptible on account of their distance. Ida perceived, that the ground on which she walked was turf; and from various circumstances she conjectured herself to be in a wood, with which she was not wholly unacquainted. Possibly she was not mistaken; for there is no place, as a writer of these times informs us, in which the sessions of the secret tribunal might not be held, provided it were private and secure from surprize.

‘This second assembly was full as numerous as the first, but it was less distinguishable, and perhaps even more silent. The bell gave the accustomed signal, and the voice which Ida had already heard, thus proclaimed:

“We, the servants of the invisible God, who judge in secret, turn to the four quarters of the globe, and call on the defender of the accused Ida: appear! appear!”

‘This summons was three times repeated. The scene became more luminous; and Ida was stepping forward without being called, when her conductor said to her in a low voice: “remain where you are; you have to-day nothing to answer.”

“Ida then viewed with more tranquillity these terrible unknown personages; a mingled sentiment of hope and joy filled her heart, and presently was elevated to transport, when, after the third summons, a figure stepped forward, masked like the others, but of

so noble a port, that the young prisoner could not help preferring him to all the assembly.

‘The champion of innocence slowly advanced, and placing himself before the seat of the chief of the tribunal: “Behold,” said he, “the defender of innocence: put me to death, if Ida be guilty.”’

‘The cause was opened. The questions already put to Ida were one by one repeated; but she heard them not with the same terror as at first; for the stranger appeared competent to answer them, and she believed herself perfectly justified. But her judges were not so easy to be convinced. The adventure of the lock of hair, which, in those days of ignorance appeared so suspicious a circumstance, was still undenied; the words she had uttered on the subject, to the young princess of Ratibor, were equally disproved, and testified strongly against her. The empress beside was still not wholly recovered, and Herman of Unna, whom Ida was accused of having assassinated, it was asserted, was no where to be found.

‘The champion of Ida demanded that they should wait the recovery of Sophia, before they proceeded to pass sentence, since if the prisoner were guilty, the princess could give much more direct information on the subject, than had hitherto been offered: but this demand was rejected. As to the complaint respecting the murder of Herman, he offered instantly to produce proofs of its falsehood. But on this head silence was imposed on him, and he was ordered to confine himself to the principal charge, that of sorcery. Conscious of the difficulty, not to say impossibility of completely refuting such an accusation, he kept a melancholy silence, which filled the mind of Munster’s daughter with alarm and terror.

‘Recovering himself, however, he at length said: “I am aware of the danger of my situation; I am aware that no one can engage in the defence of a person arraigned before this tribunal, without exposing him-
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self to the same punishment as the culprit, if he be found guilty. Be it so! here I am: put me to death if there be no safety for Ida: but I call heaven and earth to witness, that she is innocent. Tremble, ye judges! her blood will find avengers: she is not the daughter of an obscure citizen; she is the daughter of a prince."

'Instantly a murmur pervaded the whole assembly. The greater part charged him with having invented this fable in order to protract the trial. In consequence it was determined, that he should be confined till he proved his assertion, and he was immediately seized.— "Oh! they will kill, they will murder him!" exclaimed Ida: and, as she uttered these words, the whole assembly appeared to swim before her eyes in a thick mist, the lights disappeared, her ears rung with fearful noises, and she sunk senseless on the ground.' Vol. i. p. 276.

The second volume exhibits Ida as the acknowledged daughter of the duke of Wirtemberg. An old feud between the families, as well as Herman's want of fortune, increases the difficulties of the two lovers. The author again takes advantage of the interest inspired by the mysteries of the secret tribunal, in rendering Herman obnoxious to it on account of a murder, of which, from circumstances artfully thrown together, he is supposed to be guilty. Warned of his danger, he makes a visit to his family, which gives rise to a situation the most striking in the work, and which is wrought up with great effect. In the general group of the family, the reader is presented with a picture of the pride, stiffness, and parade of a true German family of noblesse: to one member of it, however, Herman feels himself particularly attracted; but his relation, who is (unknown to him) a member of the tribunal, and therefore bound by his oath to kill any one condemned by it, behaves to him with a mysterious coldness and reserve, and anxiously avoids

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all occasions of being alone with him. At length, notwithstanding his precautions, he meets him in a narrow road, and with great expressions of regret stabs Herman and then himself. The wounds of neither however prove mortal, and the tenderest friendship succeeds their rencounter.

The scene of the third volume lies chiefly among convents, to which, and to the clergy of those days, the author seems to be no friend. The names of John Hufs, whose doctrines then began to spread in Bohemia, of Mary the unfortunate wife of Sigismund, and Barbe her rival, frequently occur. It is not, however, so interesting as the former volumes, though it concludes with the union of Herman and Ida, the latter of whom is rescued just in time to prevent her being forced to take the veil.

The peculiar interest of this work, no doubt, rests on the account, so novel and so striking, of the secret tribunal; but perhaps the author has availed himself of it too much, and introduced it rather too often: the story of Ida's visiting it in disguise is totally improbable. As to the translation, we believe it to be faithful; and the style is easy, but has no peculiar pretensions to elegance.

DREADFUL SITUATION OF A TRAVELLER, AMONG THE CROCODILES, OR ALLIGATORS, IN NORTH AMERICA.

THE evening was temperately cool and calm. The crocodiles began to roar and appear in uncommon numbers along the shores and in the river. I fixed my camp in an open plain, near the projection of the promontory, under the shelter of a large live oak, which stood on the highest part of the ground, and but a few yards from my boat. From this open, high situation,

ation, I had a free prospect of the river, which was a matter of no trivial consideration to me, having good reason to dread the subtle attacks of the alligators, who were crouding about my harbour. Having collected a good quantity of wood for the purpose of keeping up a light and smoke during the night, I began to think of preparing my supper; when, upon examining my stores, I found but a scanty provision. I thereupon determined, as the most expeditious way of supplying my necessities, to take my bob and try for some trout. About one hundred yards above my harbour began a cove or bay of the river, out of which opened a large lagoon. The mouth or entrance from the river to it was narrow, but the waters soon after spread and formed a little lake, extending into the marshes: its entrance and shores which I observed to be verged with floating lawns of the pistia and nymphaea and other aquattick plants; these I knew were excellent haunts for trouts.

The verges and islets of the lagoon were elegantly embellished with flowering plants and shrubs; the laughing coots with wings half spread were tipping over the little coves, and hiding themselves in the tufts of grass; young broods of the painted summer teal, skimming the still surface of the waters, and following the watchful parent unconscious of danger, were frequently surprized by the voracious trout; and he, in turn, as often by the subtle greedy alligator. Behold him rushing forth from the flags and reeds! His enormous body swells. His plaited tail, brandished high, floats upon the lake. The waters, like a cataract, descend from his opening jaws. Clouds of smoke issue from his dilated nostrils. The earth trembles with his thunder. When, immediately from the opposite coast of the lagoon, emerges from the deep his rival champion. They suddenly dart upon each other. The boiling surface of the lake marks their rapid course, and a terrific conflict commences. They now sink to
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the bottom folded together in horrid wreaths. The water becomes thick and discoloured. Again they sink, when the contest ends at the muddy bottom of the lake, and the vanquished makes a hazardous escape, hiding himself in the muddy turbulent waters and sedge on a distant shore. The proud victor exulting returns to the place of action. The shores and forests resound his dreadful roar, together with the triumphing shouts of the plaited tribes around, witnesses of the horrid combat.

My apprehensions were highly alarmed after being a spectator of so dreadful a battle. It was obvious that every delay would but tend to increase my dangers and difficulties, as the sun was near setting, and the alligators gathered around my harbour from all quarters. From these considerations I concluded to be expeditious in my trip to the lagoon, in order to take some fish. Not thinking it prudent to take my fusée with me, lest I might lose it over-board in case of a battle, which I had every reason to dread before my return; I therefore furnished myself with a club for my defence, went on board, and penetrating the first line of those which surrounded my harbour, they gave way; but, being pursued by several very large ones, I kept strictly on the watch, and paddled with all my might towards the entrance of the lagoon, hoping to be sheltered there from the multitude of my assailants; but, ere I had half-way reached the place, I was attacked on all sides, several endeavouring to upset the canoe. My situation now became precarious to the last degree: two very large ones attacked me closely at the same instant, rushing up with their heads and part of their bodies above the water, roaring terribly, and belching floods of water over me. They struck their jaws together so close to my ears, as almost to stun me, and I expected every moment to be dragged out of the boat and instantly devoured. But I applied my weapons so effectually about me, though

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at random, that I was so successful as to beat them off a little; when, finding that they designed to renew the battle, I made for the shore, as the only means left me for my preservation; for, by keeping close to it, I should have my enemies on one side of me only, whereas I was before surrounded by them; and there was a probability, if pushed to the last extremity, of saving myself, by jumping out of the canoe on shore, as it is easy to outwalk them on land, though comparatively as swift as lightning in the water. I found this last expedient alone could fully answer my expectations; for as soon as I gained the shore, they drew off, and kept aloof. This was a happy relief, as my confidence was, in some degree recovered by it. On recollecting myself, I discovered that I had almost reached the entrance of the lagoon, and determined to venture in, if possible, to take a few fish, and then return to my harbour, while day-light continued; for I could now, with caution and resolution, make my way with safety along shore; and, indeed, there was no other way to regain my camp, without leaving my boat, and making my retreat through the marshes and reeds, which, if I could even effect, would have been in a manner throwing myself away; for then there would have been no hopes of ever recovering my bark, and returning in safety to any settlements of men. I accordingly proceeded, and made good my entrance into the lagoon, though not without some opposition from the alligators, who formed a line across the entrance, but did not pursue me into it; nor was I molested by any there, though there were some very large ones in a cove at the upper end. I soon caught more trout than I had present occasion for; and the air was too hot and sultry to admit of their being kept for many hours, even though salted or barbecued. I now prepared for my return to camp, which I succeeded in with but little trouble, by keeping close to the shore; yet I was opposed upon re-entering the river out of the lagoon, and

and pursued near to my landing—though not closely attacked—particularly by an old daring one, about twelve feet in length, who kept close after me; and when I stepped on shore and turned about, in order to draw up my canoe, he rushed up near my feet, and lay there for some time, looking me in the face, his head and shoulders out of the water. I resolved he should pay for his temerity; and having a heavy load in my fusée, I ran to my camp, and returning with my piece, found him with his foot on the gunwale of the boat, in search of fish. On my coming up he withdrew sullenly and slowly into the water, but soon returned, and placed himself in his former position, looking at me, and seeming neither fearful nor any way disturbed. I soon dispatched him by lodging the contents of my gun in his head, and then proceeded to cleanse and prepare my fish for supper; and accordingly took them out of the boat, laid them down on the sand close to the water, and began to scale them; when, raising my head, I saw before me, through the clear water, the head and shoulders of a very large alligator, moving slowly towards me. I instantly stepped back, when, with a sweep of his tail, he brushed off several of my fish. It was certainly most providential that I looked up at that instant, as the monster would probably in less than a minute have seized and dragged me into the river. This incredible boldness of the animal disturbed me greatly, supposing there could now be no reasonable safety for me during the night, but by keeping continually on the watch: I therefore, as soon as I had prepared the fish, proceeded to secure myself and effects in the best manner I could. In the first place, I hauled my bark upon the shore, almost clear out of the water, to prevent their oversetting or sinking her; after this, every moveable was taken out and carried to my camp, which was but a few yards off; then ranging some dry wood in such order as was the most convenient, I cleared the ground round
about

about it, that there might be no impediment in my way, in case of an attack in the night, either from the water or the land; for I discovered by this time, that this small isthmus, from its remote situation and fruitfulness, was resorted to by bears and wolves. Having prepared myself in the best manner I could, I charged my gun, and proceeded to reconnoitre my camp and the adjacent grounds; when I discovered that the peninsula and grove, at the distance of about two hundred yards from my incampment, on the land side, were invested by a cypress swamp, covered with water, which below was joined to the shore of the little lake, and above to the marshes surrounding the lagoon; so that I was confined to an islet exceedingly circumscribed, and I found there was no other retreat for me, in case of an attack, but by either ascending one of the large oaks, or pushing off with my boat.

It was by this time dusk, and the alligators had nearly ceased their roar, when I was again alarmed by a tumultuous noise that seemed to be in my harbour, and therefore engaged my immediate attention. Returning to my camp, I found it undisturbed, and then continued on to the extreme point of the promontory, where I saw a scene new and surprising, which at first threw my senses into such a tumult, that it was some time before I could comprehend what was the matter; however, I soon accounted for the prodigious assemblage of crocodiles at this place, which exceeded every thing of the kind I had ever heard of.

How shall I express myself so as to convey an adequate idea of it to the reader, and at the same time avoid raising suspicions of my veracity! Should I say, that the river (in this place) from shore to shore, and perhaps near half a mile above and below me, appeared to be one solid bank of fish, of various kinds, pushing through this narrow pass of St Juan's into the little lake, on their return down the river, and that the alligators were in such incredible numbers, and so close together

together from shore to shore, that it would have been easy to have walked across on their heads, had the animals been harmless? What expressions can sufficiently declare the shocking scene that for some minutes continued, while this mighty army of fish were forcing the pass? During this attempt, thousands, I may say hundreds of thousands, of them were swallowed by the devouring alligators. I have seen an alligator take up out of the water several great fish at a time, and just squeeze them betwixt his jaws, while the tails of the great trout flapped about his eyes and lips, ere he had swallowed them. The horrid noise of their closing jaws, their plunging amidst the broken banks of fish, and rising with their prey some feet upright above the water, and the floods of water and blood rushing out of their mouths, and the clouds of vapour issuing from their wide nostrils, were truly frightful. This scene continued at intervals during the night, as the fish came to the pass. After this sight, shocking and tremendous as it was, I found myself somewhat easier and more reconciled to my situation; being convinced that their extraordinary assemblage here was owing to this annual feast of fish; and that they were so well employed in their own element, that I had little occasion to fear their paying me a visit.

It being now almost night, I returned to my camp, where I had left my fish broiling, and my kettle of rice stewing; and having with me oil, pepper, and salt, and excellent oranges hanging in abundance over my head—a valuable substitute for vinegar—I sat down and regaled myself cheerfully. Having finished my repast, I rekindled my fire for light, and while I was revising the notes of my past day's journey, I was suddenly roused with a noise behind me towards the main land. I sprang upon my feet, and listening, I distinctly heard some creature wading in the water of the isthmus. I seized my gun, and went cautiously from my camp, directing my steps toward the noise: when
I had

I had advanced about thirty yards, I halted behind a coppice of orange trees, and soon perceived two very large bears, which had made their way through the water, and had landed in the grove, about one hundred yards distance from me, and were advancing towards me. I waited until they were within thirty yards of me: they there began to snuff and look towards my camp. I snapped my piece, but it flashed, upon which they turned about and galloped off, plunging through the water and swamp, never halting, as I suppose, until they reached fast land, as I could hear them leaping and plunging a long time. They did not presume to return again; nor was I molested by any other creature, except being occasionally awakened by the whooping of owls, screaming of bitterns, or the wood-rats running amongst the leaves.

The wood-rat is a very curious animal. It is not half the size of the domestic rat; of dark-brown or black colour; its tail slender and shorter in proportion, and covered thinly with short hair. It is singular with respect to its ingenuity and great labour in the construction of its habitation, which is a conical pyramid about three or four feet high, constructed with dry branches, which it collects with great labour and perseverance, and piles up without any apparent order; yet they are so interwoven with one another, that it would take a bear, or wild-cat, sometimes to pull one of these castles to pieces, and allow the animals sufficient time to secure a retreat with their young.

The noise of the crocodiles kept me awake the greater part of the night; but when I arose in the morning, contrary to my expectations, there was perfect peace; very few of them to be seen, and those were asleep on the shore. Yet I was not able to suppress my fears and apprehensions of being attacked by them in future; and, indeed, yesterday's combat with them, notwithstanding I came off in a manner victorious, or at least, made a safe retreat, had left sufficient impres-

sion on my mind to damp my courage ; and it seemed too much for one of my strength, being alone in a very small boat, to encounter such collected danger. To pursue my voyage up the river, and be obliged every evening to pass such dangerous defiles, appeared to me as perilous as running the gauntlet betwixt two rows of Indians armed with knives and firebrands. I, however, resolved to continue my voyage one day longer, if I possibly could with safety, and then return down the river, should I find the like difficulties to oppose. Accordingly, I got every thing on board, charged my gun, and set sail cautiously along shore. As I passed by Battle lagoon, I began to tremble and keep a good look out ; when suddenly a huge alligator rushed out of the reeds, and with a tremendous roar came up, and darted as swift as an arrow under my boat, emerging upright on my lee quarter, with open jaws, and belching water and smoke that fell upon me like rain in a hurricane. I laid soundly about his head with my club, and beat him off ; and after plunging and darting about my boat, he went off on a straight line through the water, seemingly with the rapidity of lightning, and entered the cape of the lagoon. I now employed my time to the very best advantage in paddling close along shore, but could not forbear looking now and then behind me, and presently perceived one of them coming up again. The water of the river, hereabouts, was shoal and very clear : the monster came up with the usual roar and menaces, and passed close by the side of my boat, when I could distinctly see a young brood of alligators, to the number of one hundred or more, following after her in a long train. They kept close together in a column without straggling off to the one side or the other : the young appeared to be of an equal size, about fifteen inches in length, almost black, with pale yellow transverse waved clouds or blotches, much like rattlesnakes in colour. I now lost sight of my enemy again.

Still

Still keeping close along shore, on turning a point or projection of the river bank, at once I beheld a great number of hillocks, or small pyramids, resembling hay-cocks, ranged like an encampment along the banks. They stood fifteen or twenty yards distant from the water, on a high marsh, about four feet perpendicular above the water. I knew them to be the nests of the crocodile, having had a description of them before; and now expected a furious and general attack, as I saw several large crocodiles swimming abreast of these buildings. These nests being so great a curiosity to me, I was determined at all events immediately to land and examine them. Accordingly, I ran my bark on shore at one of their landing places, which was a sort of nick or little dock, from which ascended a sloping path, or road; up to the edge of the meadow, where their nests were; most of them were deserted, and the great thick whitish egg-shells lay broken and scattered upon the ground round about them.

The nests or hillocks are of the form of an obtuse cone, four feet high, and four or five feet in diameter at their bases; they are constructed with mud, grass, and herbage. At first they lay a floor of this kind of tempered mortar upon the ground, on which they deposit a layer of eggs, and upon this a stratum of mortar, seven or eight inches in thickness, and then another layer of eggs; and in this manner, one stratum upon another, nearly to the top. I believe they commonly lay from one to two hundred eggs in a nest: these are hatched, I suppose, by the heat of the sun; and, perhaps, the vegetable substances mixed with the earth, being acted upon by the sun, may cause a small degree of fermentation, and so increase the heat in those hillocks. The ground, for several acres about these nests, shewed evident marks of a continual resort of alligators; the grass was every where beaten down, hardly a blade of straw was left standing; whereas all about, at a distance, it was five or six feet high, and as thick as it could grow together. The female, as I ima-

gine, carefully watches her own nest of eggs until they are all hatched; or, perhaps, while she is attending her own brood, she takes under her care and protection as many as she can get at one time, either from her own particular nest, or others: but certain it is, that the young are not left to shift for themselves; for I have had frequent opportunities of seeing the female alligator leading about the shores her train of young ones, just as a hen does her brood of chickens; and she is equally assiduous and courageous in defending the young, which are under her care, and providing for their subsistence; and when she is basking upon the warm banks, with her brood around her, you may hear the young ones continually whining and barking, like young puppies. I believe but few of a brood live to the years of full growth and magnitude, as the old feed on the young as long as they can make prey of them.

The alligator, when full grown, is a very large and terrible creature, and of prodigious strength, activity, and swiftness in the water. I have seen them twenty feet in length, and some are supposed to be twenty-two or twenty-three feet. Their body is as large as that of a horse; their shape exactly resembles that of a lizard, except their tail, which is flat or cuniform, being compressed on each side, and gradually diminishing from the abdomen to the extremity; which, with the whole body, is covered with horny plates, or squammæ, impenetrable when on the body of the live animal, even to a rifle ball, except about their head and just behind their fore-legs or arms, where, it is said, they are only vulnerable. The head of a full grown one is about three feet, and the mouth opens nearly the same length; their eyes are small in proportion, and seem sunk deep in the head, by means of the prominency of the brows; the nostrils are large, inflated and prominent on the top; so that the head in the water resembles, at a distance, a great chunk of wood floating about.

bout. Only the upper-jaw moves, which they raise almost perpendicular, so as to form a right angle with the lower one. In the fore-part of the upper-jaw, on each side, just under the nostrils, are two very large, thick, strong teeth or tusks, not very sharp, but rather the shape of a cone: these are as white as the finest polished ivory, and are not covered by any skin or lips, and always in sight, which gives the creature a frightful appearance: in the lower-jaw are holes opposite to these teeth, to receive them; when they clap their jaws together, it causes a surprizing noise, like that which is made by forcing a heavy plank with violence on the ground, and may be heard at a great distance.

But what is yet more surprizing to a stranger, is the incredibly loud and terrifying roar, which they are capable of making, especially in the spring season, their breeding time. It most resembles very heavy distant thunder, not only shaking the air and waters, but causing the earth to tremble; and when hundreds and thousands are roaring at the same time, you can scarcely be persuaded but that the whole globe is violently and dangerously agitated.

An old champion, who is perhaps absolute sovereign of a little lake or lagoon—when fifty less than himself are obliged to content themselves with swelling and roaring in little coves round about—darts forth from the reedy coverts all at once, on the surface of the waters, in a right line; at first seemingly as rapid as lightning, but gradually more slowly, till he arrives at the centre of the lake, when he stops. He now swells himself by drawing in wind and water through his mouth, which causes a loud sonorous rattling in the throat for near a minute, but it is immediately forced out again through his mouth and nostrils with a loud noise, brandishing his tail in the air, and the vapour ascending from his nostrils like smoke. At other times, when swollen to an extent ready to burst, his head and tail lifted up, he spins or twirls round on the surface

surface of the water. He acts his part like an Indian chief when rehearsing his feats of war; and then retiring, the exhibition is continued by others who dare to step forth, and strive to excel each other, to gain the attention of the favourite female.

Having gratified my curiosity at this general breeding-place and nursery of crocodiles, I continued my voyage up the river without being greatly disturbed by them.

NATIONAL PHYSIOGNOMY.

TRANSLATED FROM LAVATER.

THAT there is national physiognomy, as well as national character, is undeniable. Whoever doubts this fact, can never have observed men of different nations, nor compared the inhabitants of the extreme confines of any two. Compare a negroe and an Englishman, a native of Lapland and an Italian, a Frenchman and an Inhabitant of Terra del Fuego. Examine their forms, countenances, characters, and minds. Their difference will be easily seen, though it will sometimes prove very difficult to describe it scientifically.

It seems probable, that we shall discover what is national in the countenance better from the sight of an individual first, than of a whole people; at least, so it appears to me, from my own experience. Individual countenances discover more the characteristic of a whole nation, than a whole nation does that which is national in individuals.

FRENCH

FRENCH PHYSIOGNOMONICAL CHARACTER.

FROM THE SAME.

I AM least able to characterise the French. They have no trait so bold as the English, nor so minute as the Germans. I know them, chiefly, by their teeth and their laugh. The French class is that of the sanguine, in the temperament of nations. Frivolous, benevolent, and ostentatious, the Frenchman forgets not his inoffensive parade till old age has made him wise. At all times disposed to enjoy life, he is the best of companions. He pardons himself much, and therefore pardons others, if they will but grant that they are foreigners, and he is a Frenchman. His gait is dancing, his speech without accent, and his ear incurable. His imagination pursues the consequence of small things with the rapidity of the moment-hand of a stop-watch, but seldom gives those loud, strong, reverberating strokes, which announce new discoveries to the world. Wit is his inheritance. His countenance is open, and speaks, at first sight, a thousand pleasant, amiable things. Silent he cannot be, either with eye, tongue, or feature. His eloquence is often deafening, but his good humour casts a veil over all his failings. His form is equally distinct from that of other nations, and difficult to describe. No other has so little of the firm or deep traits, or so much motion. He is all appearance, all gesture: therefore, the first impression seldom deceives, but declares who and what he is. His imagination is incapable of high flights, and the sublime in all arts is to him offence. Hence his dislike of whatever is antique, in art or in literature; his bad ear for genuine music; his blindness to the higher beauties of painting. His last most marking trait is, that he is astonished at every thing; and cannot comprehend how it is possible for men to be otherwise than they are at Paris.

DUTCH

DUTCH PHYSIOGNOMONICAL CHARACTER;

FROM THE SAME.

THE Dutch I discover by the rotundity of the head, and the weakness of the hair. A Dutchman is tranquil, patient, confined, and appears to will nothing. His walk and eye are long silent; and an hour of his company seems scarcely to produce a thought. He is little troubled by the tide of passions; and will contemplate, unmoved the parading streams of all nations sailing before his eyes. Quiet and competence are his gods; those arts, therefore, which can procure these blessings, alone employ his faculties. His laws, political and commercial, have originated in that spirit of security which maintains him in the possession of what he has gained. He is tolerant in all that relates to opinion, if he be but left peaceably to enjoy his property, and to assemble at the meeting-house of his sect. The character of the ant is so applicable to the Dutch, that to this literature itself conforms in Holland. All poetical powers, exerted in great works or small, are foreign to this nation. They endure pleasure from the perusal of poetry, but they produce none. I speak of the United Provinces, and not of the Flemings, whose jovial character is in the midway between the Italian and French. The characteristic of a Dutchman is, I believe, a high forehead, half-open eyes, full nose, hanging cheeks, wide open mouth, fleshy lips, broad chin, and large ears.

INTERESTING

INTERESTING ANECDOTE

OF A FRENCH ROYALIST AND A REPUBLICAN.

Translated from the Royalist's Memoirs.

BY FRANCIS ASHMORE, ESQ.

I Had been about three weeks in the army of La Vendee, and few days had passed without some skirmish, when the republicans made a sudden and impetuous attack on the post which it was my duty to defend. We opposed them valiantly for half the day, but were at length on the point of giving way to their superior numbers; when a happy diversion from one of our neighbouring posts, which marched to cut off the enemy's rear, threw their ranks into disorder, and put the republicans instantly to flight. Being now, in our turn, the assailants, we pursued them with ardour; and, for my part, I furiously followed after one of the fugitives, who appeared to be an officer.

In his precipitate flight, he threw himself into the most difficult ways, intersected with hedges and ditches: but my horse, seconding the ardour of his master, overleaped every thing with admirable adroitness. In spite, however, of all our efforts, my adversary gained on me in swiftness; and the rapidity of his flight had almost saved him, when the girth of his saddle gave way; and, throwing him on the ground, left him, without defence, to my fury. I raised high my sabre over him, and was about to cut him in two, when, turning towards me, with a calm and noble aspect—"Royalist," said he, shewing me, at the same time, that all that remained of his arms was the mere handle of his sword—"You can acquire little glory by my sacrifice! It is true, I confess, that the war which prevails between us, has entitled you to take, and leaves me little hope of retaining, my life: yet, if there be
any

any one whom you love on the earth, if there be any object to whom you ought to be dear, in the name of that person I ask it !”

At these unexpected words, my arm was arrested as by enchantment ; my fury was allayed ; my heart affected ; and the republican saved.

“ Thou hast conquered,” said I, in a loud voice ; “ live, then, since thou hast found the road to my heart. But, fly ; for, if thou givest me time to recollect myself, thy death is inevitable !” He would have replied—“ Fly,” repeated I, with a renovated anger, which made him turn instantly pale ; “ and tremble, lest the remembrance of my King, should chace away that of my Mistress !”

He disappeared ; and I mournfully took the road back to our camp, a prey to the agitation of contending passions.

This man had touched the harmonious chord of my affections ; and the sweet vibrations mollified the fury of my heart. Now, I applauded myself, for having suspended my vengeance for the sake of her who was most dear to me ; and now I regretted my own weakness, and reproached myself with this republican’s existence.

Shortly after, we made, in our turn, a grand attack on the republican posts, which was crowned with the most brilliant success. I was in the van ; and, the moment I perceived the enemy’s line broken, no longer master of myself, I advanced before my men, according to our invariable custom, and abandoned myself to the pursuit of the flying enemy. Several of my companions pursued with equal ardour ; and, overturning all that opposed our passage, we pushed forward without wisdom or reflection.

Our chief, in the mean time, who had no other intention than that of dislodging the republicans, satisfied with the advantages of the day, and finding his object accomplished, had ordered a retreat to be sound-

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ed: but it was in vain that the voice of our men, and the noise of our warlike music, invited us back; we still continued the pursuit. Let me here remark, that this confusion and impetuosity in the moment of victory, has constantly been, and is to be feared will long continue to be, the cause of all the reverse of fortune which has happened in La Vendee, and the rock which has proved fatal to so many glorious victories.

An invincible obstacle at length put an end to our pursuit: the banks of the Loire convinced us that we could proceed no farther. Our numbers had gradually diminished during our progress; and the sight of the river restored to Reason most of those who were now left: she seemed, however, determined completely to abandon me.

A delicious sentiment, ten thousand times more dangerous than my imprudent pursuit, rivetted me to these fatal banks. My eyes began to distinguish, from thence, with the most ravishing emotion, the sweet objects which had charmed my placid infancy. I again beheld those delightful spots which had so often contributed to my happiness. Those thick groves of trees, which had so long prodigally afforded me their peaceful umbrage; those distant spires, the lonely summits of which had so often proved the guides of my rural excursions. With my attention fixed on the opposite shore, and my arms fondly extended towards those once happy abodes, I was absorbed in the most perfect rapture; and remained, entranced, at the sight of objects so dear to me. For a moment, I seemed to find, in my heart, all the felicities it had lost; I forgot all my present misfortunes. But, alas! I was awakened from this charming reverie, by a stroke the most horrible, and the most terrific.

I found myself suddenly seized and bound by the Republicans; who, recovering from their panic, returned to occupy the ground which had been voluntarily abandoned by the Royalists. I was not the only

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imprudent;

imprudent ; for I soon found myself in company with thirty other victims.

It would be difficult to describe all the ill-treatment we experienced, and the barbarous preparations they made to aggravate the punishment for which we were reserved. They presently crowded us into a dungeon, heaped one on another, without affording us any nourishment ; and our guards were ordered to massacre us, without mercy, on the smallest noise being heard among us. For the rest, they very humanely assured us, that we should be shot next morning, as soon as they mounted guard. The commander-in chief, however, had fortunately been absent two or three days ; and the officer he left durst not take our execution on himself, because orders had been lately received by the army, always to reserve some prisoners, that they might be sent two and two to the neighbouring towns, for the sake of keeping the guillotine employed, and the inhabitants in a constant state of terror and subjection.

We were, therefore, spared for the present ; but, one of the republicans having made an infernal proposal, that we should conduce to the pleasure and amusement of the soldiers, they immediately prepared a punishment still less supportable than that with which we had originally been menaced. They drove, at the head of the camp, as many stakes as they had prisoners ; to these we were firmly bound, and from thence became the miserable objects of the low ribaldry, pusillanimous insults, and unmanly blows, of their whole army.

Having dressed, in our presence, two figures, they covered them with the attributes of royalty and of religion : to one of these they gave the title of *King*, and that of *Pope* to the other. In the middle they raised a rostrum, where all who pleased were welcome to give proofs of their eloquence ; those, especially, who were most fertile in insults. Judge what I was doomed to hear, during the two days of this cruel torment ! One related the most gross indelicacies ; and
vaunted,

vaunted, by the name of exploits, all the crimes which he had committed against us. He enumerated all the houses he had burned, the women he had drowned, and the infants whose throats he had cut. His recital made me shudder with horror! Some, on the contrary, pretended to depict virtue; and gravely harangued, on what they called our crimes and forfeitures; while others, and those were much the greatest number, joined derision the most atrocious to the most villainous barbarity.

They gave us, for our meals, only a morsel of black bread, and a single glass of water; which were delivered with mock parade. A herald preceded the distribution; proclaiming aloud, that all might now behold the splendid *feast* with which his Majesty King Louis XVII. entertained his loyal and faithful subjects. At other times, we received cuffs, of the head, which they dealt to all at once; or were saluted with pails of water, which they poured on our bare heads, notwithstanding the rigour of the season: felicitating us, that our Holy Father, the Pope, out of his abundant kindness, thus recompensed his faithful flock, by the renewal of those blessed sacraments, *baptism* and *confirmation*!

Should I attempt to describe all the humiliations and sufferings which they inflicted on us, the recital would never be ended. I had arrived towards the conclusion of my second day's sufferings, and prayed of Heaven, that he would be pleased to abridge them by my death; when I perceived, among the spectators who were constantly parading before us, a person whom I perfectly recollected was the very Republican whose life I had so recently granted. I saw that he also recognized me, for his countenance suddenly changed, when his eyes encountered mine. He presently disappeared; but soon returning, and stepping from the middle of the crowd, advanced opposite to where I was stationed: then, pointing at me with his finger—"Comrades,"

said he, smiling, to the soldiers, "behold one whom I denounce as a priest!—Certainly," continued he, "it is not just that a soldier of the Pope should be treated like a satellite of Kings: we must not grant him the honour of being shot, but rather deliver him up to the sacred water which reclaims him."

It is to be remembered, that priests and women were in general drowned.

"These holy banditti," he proceeded, "often reproach us with being unjust. It is proper to convince them that we know how to make a due distribution of justice; and, for my own part, I am resolved that it shall be my business to obtain a redress of this grievance." He then departed, amidst the laughter and applause of the multitude, who recommenced their abominable persecutions.

In the mean time, I dreaded no augmentation of evil from this adventure, notwithstanding the brutal language of the officer: and was impatiently waiting the event, when I perceived him, at night, entering the dungeon in which we were every evening buried. He produced to the gaoler an order for exchanging my prison; and, renewing his insulting speeches, carried me away. Hardly, however, was I in his hands, and had quitted the dungeon, when he changed his voice and his language. "My friend," said he, "take courage: this is my happy hour; for, O how delightful is gratitude! I will either save you, or we will perish together." Then, stripping off his large regimental riding-coat, he discovered a coarser beneath, which he made me instantly take; and, placing on my head a red cap, which he drew from his pocket—"You must profit," said he, "by the darkness of the night; and forget not, in any extremity, that you are my servant. I have prepared every thing for your escape, and hope to succeed. I have no duty to perform till to-morrow morning; in the mean time, we can manage well enough all that will be necessary for you."

you. I have taken care to tell several of my comrades, that I meant to pass the night with some of those acquaintance which our long winter quarters have procured us on the other side the river.

To gain the rear of the army, we were under the necessity of passing a prodigious number of posts; and I had an opportunity to convince myself of the strange confusion which every where prevailed. There was neither guard, nor precaution; the watch word, which my deliverer had carefully given me, was totally useless. We reached the head quarters without having been in the smallest degree interrupted or interrogated. There, availing ourselves of the ferry-boat, which passes every hour, we arrived safe on the other side; and my generous conductor accompanied me to an inn, where he ordered a good supper.

No sooner were we alone, than he took from his pocket a certificate of civism, in which a blank was left for the name, as well as a passport with similar blanks for the places of destination. Then, placing his arms on the table, with a purse of considerable value, he sunk on one knee before me—"Accept these," said he; "it is your prisoner whom you behold at your feet, and who at this moment confesses that he is indebted to your generosity alone for the life and liberty which he now enjoys. He pretends not to discharge the obligation which he owes for such great blessings; but he is desirous that you should believe he was not unworthy to obtain them. However criminal may appear to you," added he, "the part which I am acting, believe, for the present, that it is possible I may some day be enabled to justify myself: for good sentiments delight to dwell together, and a heart of tried fidelity cannot be altogether bad. My conduct, I confess, must appear atrocious to you, who are not in possession of the key. How severe, at this moment, is my fate! that I have not the power of explaining myself to you, for whom my esteem ought to be so dear!

dear!—But you will have the kindness to believe, that it is a secret which I cannot possibly divulge, since it lays me under the cruel necessity of being silent even to you.”

Filled with wonder, at such feeling, and such noble deportment, I took him by the hand; and, no longer considering his opinion, or his principles, I tenderly embraced him in my arms.

We gave each other our respective names, the places of our original residence, and vowed to one another an inviolable attachment. On his word I make no difficulty to rely; for, whatever may henceforth be this man, and his actions, I feel that I shall need not only his remembrance, but his regard.

CUSTOMS AND MANNERS OF THE TURKS.

AS the Saracen powers rose on the ruin of the Roman empire, so the Turkish sprung out of the ashes of the former; and, of course, occupies many of those rich, fertile, and delightful provinces, which under the government of Rome flourished in arts, arms, and agriculture.

A country of such prodigious extent must necessarily be situate in climates differing considerably at the different extremes: yet it is for the most part temperate, equal, and moderate; the seasons are regular and certain; the air is pure, light, and generally healthful; notwithstanding which, pestilential diseases frequently visit these otherwise happy regions, and more than counterbalance the inclemencies of the frigid and pestuous north.

Some of the kingdoms and provinces of Turkey abound with corn, olives, citrons, lemons, oranges, figs, pomegranates, dates, and other fruits, of the most grateful taste and delicious flavour; others are rich in

wine,

wine, cattle, silk, and honey; and others produce drugs, gums, medicinal herbs, odoriferous plants, and exquisite coffee: yet, in the midst of plenty, in the full prospect of enjoying the choicest blessings of Providence, unconquerable indolence, and an arbitrary form of government, deprive the wretched inhabitants of the comforts within their reach: the one restraining them from procuring more by their labour than the means of existence, and the other robbing them at pleasure of the scanty pittance which they can prevail on themselves to earn, by exertions which in less happy climes would rather be considered amusing than toilsome.

In the different divisions of Asiatic Turkey, all manner of metals and minerals are found, and almost every kind of precious stone; emeralds, in particular, of peculiar beauty, lustre, and size. This country also abounds with medicinal springs and baths, whose virtues and efficacy are said at least to rival those of the most celebrated in Europe.

The Turks are in general stout, well made, and robust; their complexions naturally fair, and their features handsome, especially while they are young or preserved from exposure to the sun, whose penetrating rays, in climates which feel its influence in a considerable degree, soon change not only the skins, but even the countenances of those who are employed in the labours of the field or the occupations of war: their hair is commonly dark, auburn, or chestnut, and sometimes black, of which last colour are their eyes.

The women are generally beautiful, extremely well made, though not tall, and somewhat inclinable to fulness of flesh; they arrive at womanhood much sooner than in more northern countries, and preserve their beauties but a very short time after they reach maturity, fading at twenty, and growing old and even disagreeable in a very few years after: it is very rarely
that

that a Turkish woman retains the smallest remains of her beauty till thirty.

The deportment of the Turks is solemn, grave, and slow; and they affect to appear sedate, passive, and humble; but they are easily provoked, and their passions are furious and ungovernable.

It is held highly commendable to provide for pilgrims or travellers; and for this purpose houses of accommodation are commonly erected on roads which are unprovided with fit places of reception for those who have occasion to take long journies, and they are supplied with necessaries for the bed and table; the same spirit induces them to dig wells and erect fountains by the road side, water being of great importance to travellers, not only as a refreshment on account of the warmth of the climate, but for the performance of the ceremonies of the Mahometan religion, which enjoins frequent washing and purification with water.

Their breakfast is commonly fried eggs, honey, cheese, and the like: their dinners are early, generally at eleven in summer, and in the winter even sooner. They use a round table, either of silver or of copper tinned, according to their circumstances; this table is set upon a wooden stool, about twelve or fourteen inches high, and they carefully preserve the carpet which covers the floor from being soiled, by placing a piece of cloth under the stool at meal times, which is removed as soon as the dinner is finished; the table remains uncovered, except by the dishes, the largest of which are placed in the middle, and the smaller, containing the sallads, pickles, and bread, as well as the spoons, are placed round the edges: as soon as those who are to dine are seated, a piece of silk, long enough to surround the table, at which they always sit cross-legged on mats placed upon the carpet, is spread on their knees. At the tables of persons of condition, only one large dish is served at a time, which is removed as soon as each person has eat a small quantity of

it,

it, and another is set on: they neither use knives nor forks, supplying the places of both with their fingers, according to the general custom of the east.

Their dishes are in general too greasy, and highly salted and spiced, as well as seasoned with onions or garlic; but they are no strangers to piquant sauces, using vinegar and lemon, or pomegranate juice, to render them poignant. Water is the only liquor they use at their meals, but they drink coffee almost immediately after they have finished.

They take their suppers about six o'clock in the summer, and five in the winter, which consist of nearly the same dishes as the dinner; in the winter their visits are generally made after supper, where they sit up late, and are entertained with collations of sweetmeats. Fruit they eat in considerable quantities between their meals, according to the different seasons.

The meals of the common people are confined to a small number of dishes, neither dressed with much art, or highly spiced or seasoned. Bread, butter, rice, and a little mutton, and a dish or two peculiar to this country, with the composition of which Europeans are unacquainted, compose their winter food; in summer they are supplied with variety of fruits, which with rice, bread, and cheese, constitute their meals, the principal of which, as in most other countries, is taken in the evening, when they return from the labours of the day.

Wine and spirits are forbidden by the laws of Mahomet; yet, as indulgences are allowed in this respect to the sick, pretences of that sort are seldom wanting.

But though the Turks are seldom intoxicated with wine, many addict themselves to the use of opium, which produces some of the immediate effects of drunkenness, inspiring them with an extraordinary cheerfulness, rousing them into unusual exertions, and occasioning a kind of temporary delirium. Nor is this
fort

sort of intemperance less destructive to the constitution than wine or spirits.

The beverages in most estimation among the Turks, and which indeed constitute all their public refreshments, are coffee and sherbet; the former, which is made very strong, and taken without milk or sugar, is in constant use, being universally drank at certain times of the day by all ranks of people. At a visit, the entertainment commences with a dish of coffee, accompanied by sweetmeats or acid preserves, after which pipes of tobacco and sherbet are presented to the guests; and, if they are of high quality, the room is perfumed by burning sweet wood in a censer.

The custom of smoking tobacco is not wholly confined to the men; some women, and especially among the common people, are addicted to it: it is commonly taken in pipes of wood, the stems of which are of wood of the rose or cherry-tree, which for the affluent are usually carved and ornamented with silver, amber, &c. the bowls are neatly made with clay: some of those who are rich use the Persian caalean, which is a method of passing the smoke in silver tubes through a vessel of water before it reaches the mouth, which renders it mild and cool, and is said to be attended with the peculiar advantage of its being less apt to leave a disagreeable smell and taste in the mouth, than when it is smoked in a common pipe; those who are unacquainted with this luxury, or unable to afford it, are seldom without a pipe in their mouths, even while they are performing their ordinary avocations.

Among the amusements of the Turks, the bagnio holds the first place. All the cities and great towns are provided with public baths, sometimes in distinct places for each sex; but they are more commonly appropriated to the use of both at different times of the day, the men using them in the morning, and the women in the afternoon.

Those

Those exercises which constitute the chief amusements of Europe, are but little practised; hunting, shooting, riding, and walking, for pleasure or health, the Turks treat as an absurd application of that time, which they spend much more agreeably to their ideas, in lolling on sofas, smoking their favourite tobacco, or visiting the numerous collections of beauties who are devoted to their more voluptuous enjoyments.

When the ladies visit, which happens, however, but very seldom, they are without the conveniency of coaches, and must either walk, if the distance is small, or be conveyed in litters, if they undertake any considerable journeys. These litters are very closely covered up, and carried between mules; though the lower ranks have a kind of box or cradle, which is hung to the side of a mule, and is of a size just large enough to contain the precious burden.

Their favourite amusements are chess and draughts, at both which games they are peculiarly expert; they have also other sports resembling the Christmas gambols of Christian countries; such as hiding a ring under one of a number of cups placed on the table or a waiter, and guessing by rotation under which it may be found; the winner on this occasion has the privilege of exacting forfeits of those who have failed to name the right cup, or of compelling them to submit to wear a fool's cap, have their faces blacked, or stand in certain postures; for the gratification of this pleasure they are, however, obliged to admit some of their domestics or inferiors to the diversion; those who are of any rank being too proud to be jested with, though they enjoy the humiliation of others.

Dancing is a profession of gain; and is practised to this end by persons of both sexes, in whose performances the legs and feet seem to be less engaged than the hands and arms; the former serving principally to enable them to turn round, that they may exhibit to every part of the company attitudes and gesticulations; which,

which, however calculated to entertain an Asiatic polite circle, would be considered in the European world as somewhat vulgar, if not indecent.

Their martial musical instruments consist of trumpets, hautboys, cymbals, and large drums, the upper and lower sides of which are struck at the same time; the former with drum-sticks of a large size, and the latter with a small elastick rod: they have also drums nearly of the size with those used by the Europeans, but they are usually beat with the fists instead of drumsticks.

For concerts they have the dulcimer, the dervise's flute, which is of a particular construction, the Arabian fiddle or violin, and the guittar; but these instruments are almost constantly accompanied by the tambourins, which they call the diff, and which is well known in the streets of this metropolis, being a hoop covered with parchment, and furnished with small pieces of metal hanging to the edges of it: however jingling and discordant the sounds of this instrument may be to modern ears, somewhat of the same kind was certainly used at the festive entertainments of the ancients, as it bears a very strong resemblance to their tympanum. In the streets, and especially in the provinces distant from the capital, the common people are entertained by a kind of bagpipe, which is played by itinerant musicians like our barrel-organs and hurdy-gurdies.

The coffee-houses, several of which are to be found in every city or considerable town, are by no means places of polite resort; the entertainments provided to relish the coffee and sherbet of the guests are rather of the coarser kind; the keepers of these houses commonly retaining some buffoon, or imaginary wit, to amuse them with stories, tricks, and slight of hand.

The private houses of the Turks are usually quadrangular, or rather consist of different apartments, built on the several sides of a square yard or court. When the houses are built with stone, a manner of
building

building which is principally confined to those of the affluent, the rooms on the ground-floor are generally arched; over this there is one other story, and the roof is flat, and either covered with stone or plaister: the insides of the houses of people of fashion are neatly finished and ornamented with painting and gilding, and they are provided with great numbers of cup-boards and other conveniencies of the like kind; but they are little encumbered with furniture, having no use for chairs, as they sit constantly on a carpet placed on an elevated part of the floor, or recline on low sophas; tables are equally unnecessary, except that kind of stool which serves to fix the waiter on at meals, and which is removed as soon as they are finished.

The entrances to their houses are shut up with double doors, so that when they are opened it is impossible to look even into the court or square, which is generally provided with a basin and fountain in the middle; water being one of the luxuries of warm climates, and being equally desirable for religious purposes. Parts of the court are paved, and others are left as a kind of garden, and produce variety of flowers, which, with those that are cultivated in a great number of pots, are equally fragrant and ornamental. On the south side of the court there is generally an alcove open to the north, one part of which is raised about a foot or somewhat more from the level of the ground, and being furnished with mats and cushions, serves to receive ordinary visitors, or such as attend the owner of the house on matters of business; and the pavement between this alcove and the basin is of chequered work of different coloured marbles, and corresponds with a large hall on the opposite side of the square, which has also in general a fountain of water in the middle, and is adorned with pots of flowers, being lighted from a cupola at the top: this room is also appropriated to the reception of visitors when the weather is unfavourable for entertaining them in the alcove; but all the inter-

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nal beauties and ornaments of these houses are lost to the public, as they have scarce a window towards the streets except in the upper story.

The houses of the ordinary tradesmen and common people are for the most part built of wood, which frequently occasions dreadful conflagrations in the capital cities and towns; they differ from such as we have already described, in the same proportion as the habitations of the nobility and gentry are removed in elegance and convenience from those of the lower classes in the various countries of Europe.

The Turks do not undress to go to bed at any certain hour, and wait the approach of sleep; but, being seated on the mattrass, they smoke till they find themselves sleepy, and then laying themselves down, their servants cover them up. Some of high rank have musicians attending them when they retire to rest, who endeavour to compose them by the softest strains of music; and others employ some young man of letters, who is considered as a kind of secretary, to read passages of the Alcoran, or stories from the Tales of the Genii, the Arabian Nights Entertainment, or other authors who recount the lives and actions of Mahomet, Ali, and the other founders of their religion. Their sleeping places vary according to the different climates of so extensive a country; in the warmer parts their mattrasses are laid on the tops of the houses in the summer months, or in their courts, under the alcove; in the winter they chuse the smallest rooms for sleeping places, and even in those have such fires of charcoal as would suffocate an European, and must be pernicious even to those who are accustomed to them. They have always a lamp burning; and if they awake in the night, refresh themselves with a pipe, a dish of coffee, or some sweetmeats: sitting up till the inclination to sleep returns.

Contrary to the usual custom of Europeans, the husband purchases his wife, and that too without having
examined

examined or even seen the jewel he pays for. When a young man is considered marriageable, which is from seventeen to twenty, and the girls from fourteen and upwards, the mother of the youth, or other female relation or friend, looks out for a wife for him among the young women of his own rank; and having found one she approves, enquires of her mother if she is unengaged, and then reports her success to the father of the youth, who settles the whole affair, and fixes the price which his son is to pay for the lady, with her friends: when matters are in this degree of forwardness, the young couple are acquainted with their destination, to which they submit without reluctance, being wholly unacquainted with forms of courtship, or ideas of love.

Proxies being appointed, they repair to the imaum, attended by several of the male relations of each side, who first identify, by proper testimony, the appointment of these representatives of the intended bride and bridegroom: this done, the ceremony of the marriage contract is performed by the payment and acceptance of the stipulated price; and, the hands of the proxies being joined, the affiance is compleated by a prayer or blessing from the Alcoran, though neither of the parties are present.

The purchase-money of the lady is now laid out in cloaths, jewels, and other ornaments for her person, and in furniture or decorations for her bed-chamber, her father and friends adding to it according to their circumstances, and in most cases very considerably, as the payment made to the father of the bride seldom amounts to any great sum, being rather exacted as a matter of custom than of real consideration; and these nuptial presents are sent, with particular ceremonies, to the intended residence of the contracted couple, two or three days before that on which the bridegroom has determined to take home his wife; who at the same time invites his friends, acquaintance, and dependents, keeping open house till the day, and receiving the pre-

sents brought by his guests, and those sent by others who have received invitations, it being an invariable custom for all who are invited, as well as those who attend, to offer these tokens of their esteem and friendship.

On the day appointed for the bridegroom to receive his wife, all the female friends and acquaintance of each, together with others who are induced by curiosity, assemble at the bagnio appointed for this purpose. The matrons place themselves round the largest room on the marble sofas, and the virgins divest themselves of their cloaths with all possible expedition, and appear without any covering, or other ornament, than their own long hair braided with strings of pearl or ribbands. The arrival of the bride at the door being announced, two of these unincumbered beauties meet her and her mother, or any other particular friend, and conducting them into the room, proceed to reduce the bride to a state of nature: this service being performed, two others, who are provided with silver censers, filled with perfumes, begin a procession round the three large rooms of the bagnio, being followed by the whole virgin train, in pairs, the leader singing an epithalamium, with which the others join in chorus, the last couple leading the heroine of the day, whose eyes are fixed on the ground with a becoming affectation of modesty.

The procession ended, the bride is led to the several matrons, and receives the congratulatory compliments and presents of each; which latter consist of jewels, pieces of embroidery, handkerchiefs, pieces of silk, or other trinkets and toys; in return for which she kisses their hands; and this ceremony being concluded, and the bride dressed by her ready handmaids, she is conducted to the house of her husband, by her mother or other female, where separate apartments and entertainments are provided for the different sexes, who pass the day in the mirth usual on such occasions. At the time of the night when the guests prepare to depart

part, the bridegroom being dressed by his male friends, is conducted to the door of the apartment where the females are assembled, where he is met by his own relations of that sex, who proceed before him, singing and dancing to the foot of the stairs which lead to the chamber to which the bride is already retired; as the bridegroom ascends these stairs, the lady, being veiled with red gauze, is conducted by her female friends to meet him half way, and the whole band, attending the couple to the door of the bed-chamber, retire; and this is the first interview of the married pair.

Their notions, with respect to the female sex, are extremely confined: they allow them no virtue but that of bearing children, which they insist was the only end of their creation; and, indeed, their total exclusion of the women from every kind of business, and all manner of employments, even those of a domestic nature, affords them but little opportunity to exercise any other: under this persuasion they are extremely anxious to perform this duty, and consider those who die without contributing to the propagation of the species, as in a state of reprobation; and so opposite are the doctrines of Mahomet in this instance to those of some of the professors of christianity, that the celibacy which is held acceptable to God by the latter, is esteemed by the former a breach of the laws of that prophet who the Mahometans believe to have been inspired by the same Divine Being.

As soon as a Turk dies, the body is placed on a large table, and all the passages stopped with cotton, to prevent the emission of any moisture, which would not only render the body unclean, but the touch of it would have the same effect on the attendants. After this is done, the body is washed all over; and, being wrapped in a piece of cotton cloth, is laid in the coffin, which differs only from those in which the European dead are buried, in having a ridged lid: towards the head of the coffin a peg, or upright piece of

wood, rises about eight or ten inches, and on this the turban of the deceased is placed if a man; the head-dress of a female is laid flat on the coffin, and covered with a linen cloth, or handkerchief; over the whole is laid a pall, the middle of which is pretended to contain a small part of the old covering of the mosque at Mecca, the sacred repository of the remains of their prophet Mahomet; but, like the crucifix among the Catholics, as many pieces have been produced as would make fifty covers for the mosque. The pall may be of any colour or materials that the friends of the deceased chuse, but is generally black, russet, or of a dark brown: sometimes the cloaths and ornaments of the deceased are laid upon the pall; and, if he had any public employment, the ensigns of his office.

The custom of mourning for the dead in shrieks and howlings is of great antiquity, and prevails almost universally among the followers of Mahomet, but particularly in Turkey: as soon as the actual departure of the master of a family is announced, the women rend the air with their cries, which are continued with few intermissions till the interment; which, however, takes place with all convenient speed, and relieves the survivors from this troublesome and melancholy task.

The funeral procession bears relation to the quality or situation in life of the deceased: if he has been employed in any military service, banners, torn and tattered, are carried before the corpse by proper officers; these are followed by the female acquaintance and friends of the deceased; after these the body is carried on men's shoulders, with the head foremost; the nearest male relations follow the body immediately, and the females close the procession, continuing their loud lamentations, while the men are singing prayers or portions of the Alcoran.

The body is received at the gate of the mosque by the imaum, or priest, and being placed on a bier, certain

tain prayers are pronounced by the imaum, and passages from the Alcoran, expressive of a future state, and descriptive of the habitations and enjoyments of the blessed; and this ceremony being performed, the body is conveyed to the place of burial in the same order. The burying-grounds are always without the walls of the cities and towns, and are spacious and well preserved.

The body is placed with the head to the westward, and the face towards Mecca, in a reclining posture, neither lying flat or upright, the bottom of the grave being so formed as to keep it in that position; the grave is lined and covered with large flat stones, so that the body remains in a kind of vault, none of the earth which is thrown on the covering stones reaching it: as soon as the corpse is deposited, and the first covering placed over it, the imaum throws a handful of earth, and repeats the following sentence—" *Man! out of the earth wert thou created, and to the earth dost thou return. The grave is the first step of thy progress to the eternal mansions. If thy actions have been benevolent, God hath already absolved thee from thy sins; if the contrary, the mercy of God is greater than thy transgressions. Believe, as thou didst in this world, in God thy Lord, in Mahomet his prophet, and in all the prophets and messengers of God, and pardon will be extended.*"

The Turks usually set up a stone at each end of the grave, on both which are inscribed texts of the Alcoran, or some prayer: on that which is placed at the head a turban is generally carved in relief, which denotes the quality of the deceased, and in some measure corresponds with the inscription of coats of arms on the tombs or grave-stones of this country.

Families of consequence have portions of ground railed off in the common European manner, within which they bury their dead; but the ordinary grave-stones are held so sacred, that they are never removed

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on any account, but are preserved with infinitely more care than in most Christian countries.

The men wear no mourning for their deceased friends, nor express any regret at their departure, considering death as a dispensation of Providence, which ought to be submitted to without murmuring; and, indeed, the same apparent fortitude attends them in most exigencies: they resort to the grave, however, and pray on the third, the seventh, and the fortieth day after the interment, at which time they distribute considerable quantities of provisions among the poor. The women, however, make some alteration in their apparel, wearing those cloaths which are at least gay or ornamental, and particularly a head-dress of a dark colour, and laying aside their jewels and gaudy apparel for twelve months after the death of a husband, and six months after a father; during which they visit the tomb regularly on Mondays and Tuesdays, bedecking it with flowers, and chiding the deceased for leaving them, who had rendered him their best services, and endeavoured to make life agreeable to him: a custom which prevails also in many Christian countries, particularly in Ireland; where, however, it is confined to the lower classes. The length of the times devoted to mourning varies considerably in different ranks of life: those which we have mentioned are generally observed among persons of condition; but among all ranks of people the widow must mourn strictly for forty days before she is permitted to marry again; and during this time she must remain in the house without once quitting it, nor must she hold any other conversation than such as is necessary to the management of her ordinary concerns, even with those of her own sex who are her nearest relations.

THE

THE SORCERESS;
OR, WOLFOLD AND ULLA.

[From Mickle's Poems.]

“O H, low he lies; his cold pale cheek
Lies lifeless on the clay;
Yet struggling hope—O day spring break
And lead me on my way.

“On Denmark's cruel bands, O heaven!
They red-wing'd vengeance pour;
Before my Wolfold's spear be driven—
O rise bright morning hour!”

Thus Ulla wail'd, the fairest maid,
Of all the Saxon race;
Thus Ulla wail'd, in nightly shade,
While tears bedew'd her face.

When sudden o'er the fir-crown'd hill,
The full orb'd moon arose;
And o'er the winding dale so still,
Her silver radiance flows.

No more could Ulla's fearful breast,
Her anxious care delay;
But deep with hope and fear imprest,
She holds the moonshine way.

She left the bower, and all alone
She traced the dale so still;
And sought the cave with rue o'ergrown,
Beneath the fir-crown'd hill.

Black knares of blasted oak, embound
With hemlock, fenc'd the cell:
The dreary mouth, half under ground,
Yawn'd like the gate of hell.

Soon

Soon as the gloomy den she spy'd,
 Cold horror shook her knee;
 And hear, O Prophets, she cry'd,
 A Princess sue to thee.

Aghast she stood! athwart the air,
 The dismal screech-owl flew;
 The fillet round her auburn hair
 Asunder burst in two.

Her robe of softest yellow, glow'd
 Beneath the moon's pale beam;
 And o'er the ground with yew-boughs strew'd,
 Effus'd a golden gleam.

The golden gleam the Sorcerers spy'd,
 And in her deepest cell,
 At midnight's magic hour she try'd
 A tomb o'erpowering spell.

When from the cavern's dreary womb,
 Her groaning voice arose,
 "O come, my daughter, fearless come,
 And fearless tell thy woes."

As shakes the bough of trembling leaf,
 When whirlwinds sudden rise:
 As stands aghast the warrior chief,
 When his base army flies.

So shook, so stood the beauteous maid,
 When from the dreary den,
 A wrinkled hag came forth, array'd
 In matted rags obscene.

Around her brows, with hemlock bound,
 Loose hung her ash grey hair;
 As from two dreary caves profound
 Her blue flam'd eye-balls glare.

Her skin, of earthy red, appear'd
 Clung round her shoulder bones;

Like

Like wither'd bark, by lightning fear'd
When loud the tempest groans.

A robe of squalid green and blue,
Her ghostly length array'd,
A gaping rent, full to the view
Her furrow'd ribs betray'd.

"And tell my daughter, fearless tell,
What sorrow brought thee here?
So may my power thy cares expel,
And give the sweetest cheer."

"O Mistress of the powerful spell,
King Edri's daughter see,
Northumbria to my father fell,
And sorrow fell to me.

"My virgin heart Lord Wolfwold won;
My father on him smil'd:
Soon as he gain'd Northumbria's throne,
His pride the youth exil'd.

"Stern Denmark's raven's o'er the seas
Their gloomy black wings spread,
And o'er Northumbria's hills and leas,
Their dreadful squadrons sped.

"Return brave Wolfold, Edric cried,
O generous warrior hear,
My daughter's hand, thy willing bride,
Awaits thy conquering spear.

"The banish'd youth in Scotland's court,
Had past the weary year;
And soon he heard the glad report,
And soon he grasp'd his spear.

"He left the Scottish dames to weep,
And wing'd with true love speed;
Nor day, nor night, he stopt to sleep,
And soon he cross'd the Tweed.

"With

" With joyful voice, and raptur'd eyes,
He press'd my willing hand ;
I go my Fair, my Love, he cries,
To guard thy father's land.

" By Edon's shore in deathful fray,
The daring foe we meet,
Ere three short days I trust to lay
My trophies at thy feet.

" Alas, alas, that time is o'er,
And three long days beside,
Yet not a word from Edon's shore,
Has cheer'd his fearful bride.

" O Mistress of the powerful spell,
His doubtful fate decide ;"
" And cease, my child, for all is well,"
The grizly witch replied.

" Approach my cave, and where I place
The magic circle stand
And fear not aught of ghastly face
That glides beneath my wand."

The grizly witch's powerful charms,
Then reach the labouring moon,
And cloudless at the dire alarms,
She shed her brightest noon.

The pale beam struggled thro' the shade,
That black'd the caverns womb,
And in the deepest nook betray'd
An altar and a tomb.

Around the tomb in mystic lore,
Were forms of various mein,
And efts, and foul wing'd serpents, bore
The altars base obscene.

Eyeless, a huge and starv'd toad sat
In corner murk aloof,

And

And many a snake and famish'd bat
Clung to the crevick'd roof.

A fox and vulture's skeletons,
A yawning rift betrayed ;
And grappling still each other's bones,
The strife of death display'd.

" And now my child, the Sorceress said,
Lord Wolfwold's father's grave
To me shall render up the dead,
And fend him to my cave.

" His skeleton shall hear my spell,
And to the figur'd walls
His hand of bone shall point and tell,
What fate his son befalls."

O cold down Ulla's snow like face,
The trembling sweat drops fell,
And borne by sprights of gliding pace,
The corse approach'd the cell.

And thrice the Witch her magic wand
Wav'd o'er the skeleton ;
And slowly at the dread command,
Up rose the arm of bone.

A cloven shield and broken spear,
The finger wander'd o'er,
Then rested on a fable bier
Distain'd with drops of gore.

In ghastly writhes, her mouth so wide,
And black the Sorceress throws,
" And be those signs, my child," she cries,
" Fulfill'd on Wolfwold's foes.

" A happier spell I now shall try ;
Attend, my child, attend,
And mark what flames from altar high,
And lowly floor ascend.

“ If of the roses softest red,
The blaze shines forth to view,
Then Wolfwold lives—but Hell forbid
The glimmering flame of blue !”

The Witch then rais'd her haggard arm,
And wav'd her wand on high ;
And while she spoke the mutter'd charm,
Dark lightning fill'd her eye.

Fair Ulla's knee swift smote the ground ;
Her hands aloft were spread,
And every joint as marble bound,
Felt horror's darkest dread.

Her lips ere while so like the rose,
Were now as vi'let pale,
And tumbling in convulsive throes,
Express'd o'erwhelming ail.

Her eyes, ere while so starry bright,
Where living lustre shone,
Were now transformed to sightless white,
Like eyes of lifeless stone.

And soon the dreadful spell was o'er,
And glimmering to the view,
The quivering flame rose thro' the floor
A flame of ghastly blue.

Behind the altar's livid fire,
Low from the inmost cave,
Young Wolfwold rose in pale attire,
The vestments of the grave.

His eye to Ulla's eye he rear'd,
His cheek was wan as clay,
And half cut thro' his hand appear'd
That beckoned her away.

Fair Ulla saw the woeful shade
Her heart struck at her side

THE CALEDONIAN BEE.

And burst—low bow'd her lifeless head,
And down she sunk and died.'

*The following EPITAPHS collected chiefly in the Burial
Ground of ARBROATH, may be acceptable to some
Readers.*

ON JOHN PETER, 1771.

He that is born to day, and dies to-morrow,
Loses some *hours* of joy, but *months* of sorrow,

ON JOHN ROBERTSON, 1771.

Our life is but one Wint'ry day;

Some only breakfast and away;

Others to dinner stay,

And are full fed.

The oldest man—but sups and goes to bed.

Large is his debt who lingers out the day—

He that goes soonest, has the least to pay.

ON JAMES LOWSON, 1781.

Our sorrows here end only with our life,
Death puts an end to all our toil and strife.

The Grave—The Grave alone, it is confess

Is from the storms of life a place of rest.

Thrice happy he, who when in dust he's laid,

Has on his tomb, this for his motto said—

"This humble stone, what few vain marbles can

"May truly say, here lies AN HONEST MAN."

ON WILLIAM SPINK SHIPMASTER, 1770.

Though boist'rous blasts, and Neptune's waves,

Have tost me to and fro,

Yet by the will of God's decree,
 I harbour here below;
 Where now I ride at anchor sure
 With many of the fleet;
 Waiting the day, when we'll set sail,
 Our Adm'ral Christ to meet.
*Vixi, quoad volui—volui quoad fata volebant,
 Nec mihi vita brevis, nec mihi longa fuit.*

Here lies THOMAS BARRON who was a brewster,
 A wicked and ungodly waster;
 If he gae'd to heaven I canna' tell,
 But I'm sure there's better gane to hell

The following EPITAPH, was written on a piece of paper, and pinned to the back of one D—D S—R, who had the character of being a very troublesome man, as he lay asleep in the Burying-ground of Dundee.

Here lies David Salter at his quiet Rest,
 Lord, let him never rise again—*Quietness is best.*

A NEW DESCRIPTION OF THE CITY OF PARIS.

PARIS, the capital of France, is one of the largest, finest, and most populous cities of Europe. The river Seine, which crosses it, forms two small islands, one of which, now called *L'Isle Notre-Dame*, or the City, formed the entire town of Lutetia, when it was conquered by Julius Cæsar. The houses, or rather huts, scattered here and there, were round, small, and low. Clovis I, after the defeat of Alaric, made Paris the capital of his kingdom. Its circuit was much extended by Philip Augustus. It was greatly embellish-
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ed by Francis I, the friend of the arts and of letters. Henry IV, Louis XIII, XIV, XV, and XVI, added successively to the number and importance of the establishments.

The inhabitants of Paris are computed to be 800,000. It is two leagues in diameter, and six in circumference, including the suburbs. It is supposed to contain 1000 streets and 24,000 houses, among which are many of five or six storeys.

The rivers Yonne, Marne, and Oise, by their junction with the Seine, convey to Paris the commodities of the late provinces of Burgundy, Champagne, and Piccardy; and this last river furnishes it with the riches of the late province of Normandy, and of the sea, which is at the distance of forty two leagues. By means of the Loire, the Allier, and the canals of Orleans and Briare, it has communications with the late provinces of Lyonnois, Auvergne, Bourbonnois, Nivernois, Berry, Orleanois, Touraine, Anjou, and Bretagne; and, by the Vienne, with the late provinces of Limosin and Poitou. Of the forty-seven councils which have been held in this city, that convoked against the Arians in 360, and the last, which had for its object, in 1528, the condemnation of the doctrines of Luther, are the most remarkable. The States General of the kingdom were assembled here, in 1303, under Philip the Handsome; in 1355, under John II; in 1356, under Charles V, then dauphin; in 1357 and 1369, under the same Charles V; in 1380, 1382, and 1412, under Charles VI; in 1614, under Louis XIII; and the first national assembly of France, convoked by Louis XVI, at Versailles, was held, after the 19th of October 1789, and was succeeded by the second national assembly in 1791, and by a national convention in 1792.

There are nine principal bridges in Paris, two of which occupy the whole breadth of the Seine; namely, the Pont Neuf and the Pont Royal; to which may be

added the unfinished Pont de Louis XVI, begun in 1787. But it is to be here observed, that all the names of buildings, squares, streets, &c. in honour of their kings, and in compliment to royalty, have been totally changed, since the abolition of monarchy, toward the close of 1792. The Pont Neuf, the finest and most frequented of all the bridges, was begun, under Henry III, in 1578, and finished by Henry IV, in 1604. It is 1020 feet long by 72 broad, and has twelve arches; seven of which are on the side of the Louvre, and five on the side of the street Dauphine. Between the seventh arch and the fifth is a mole, constructed on the point of the Ile du Palais, in front of the Place Dauphine, on which, in 1614, was erected an equestrian statue of Henry IV, in bronze. But the statue of this monarch, whose memory was once idolized by the French, was destroyed, in the general demolition of all the royal statues and insignia, in 1792. In the second arch of this bridge, on the side of the Louvre, is the *Chateau de la Samaritaine* (the Woman of Samaria) a small timber building of three storeys, constructed, in 1712, on piles, and lately repaired. In the inside is a pump, which raises the water of the river, to distribute it by pipes to the Louvre, the Tuilleries, &c. In the front, are two figures larger than the life, representing our Saviour and the Woman of Samaria. A large shell, placed between these two figures, receives the water from the pump; and from this shell it falls, in a sheet, into a basin representing Jacob's Well. Above is a sun-dial; and the whole is crowned by a leaden turret, which contains a set of chimes. The other bridges are Pont St Michel, Pont au Change, le Petit Pont, Pont Notre-Dame, Pont de la Tournelle, Pont Marie, and the Pont Rouge. This last, which is a timber bridge, painted red, is the point of communication between the Ile du Palais and Ile St Louis.

Among a great number of public fountains, two only merit attention; that of the Innocents, in which, a-

mong

mong other fine pieces of sculpture, is a Galatæa, by Goujeon; and that of Grénelle, the performance of the celebrated Bouchardon.

The finest squares are, the Place Dauphine, a triangular square, built and so named, by Henry IV, in memory of the birth of Louis XIII; the Place Royale, in which was the equestrian statue of Louis XIII, in bronze; the Place Vendonne, a square, with the angles truncated, in which was the equestrian statue, in bronze, of Louis XIV, in a Roman habit; the Place des Victoires, of a circular form, in which was a statue of the same king, crowned by victory, with the arrogant inscription *Viro Immortali*; and the Place de Louis XV, of an octagon form, in which was an equestrian statue, in bronze, of that monarch. This square, which is now called the Place de la Revolution, was the fatal scene of the execution of the late unfortunate Louis XVI.—There are likewise three triumphal arches, erected to Louis XIV, and known by the names of Porte St Bernard, Porte St Denis, and Porte St Martin.

The most interesting of the manufactures of Paris is that of the Gobelins (so called from a family of celebrated dyers, settled in this city in 1450) in which tapestries are made after the pictures of the greatest masters, to such perfection, that one, representing Louis XV, a whole length, framed, and placed among the master-pieces of painting, was taken, for many days, by multitudes of visitors, for a finished piece. The manufacture of plate-glass likewise merits attention.

The cathedral of Notre Dame, a Gothic structure, is one of the largest in Europe, and contains forty-five chapels. The colossal statue of St Christopher, which was once the first object at the entrance of it, was destroyed in 1784. Next to the cathedral, the most distinguished churches are, St Sulpice, St Eustache, St Gervais, St Etienne du Mont, the old church of St Genevieve, the new church of St Genevieve, now called the Pantheon, the churches of St

St Severin, St Roch, and Val-de-Grace. In that of St Sulpice is the tomb of its celebrated vicar, M. Languet, through whose solicitations this magnificent church was begun and finished. In that of St Eustache is the monument of the great Colbert. In the old church of Genevieve are the tombs of king Clovis and of the philosopher Descartes. The new church of St Genevieve, not yet finished, was destined by the national assembly, April 4, 1791, to receive the remains of such great men as have merited well of their country; and those of the late famous member of that assembly, Honore-Riquetti Mirabeau, were accordingly interred there. But the immortality of the great men that have figured in the commencement and progress of the French revolution seems to be of very uncertain duration; and the bones of a man, who would have been impeached, perhaps, had he been alive, as a traitor to his country, may not long be permitted to repose there. The bodies of John Jacques Rousseau, and of Voltaire, have been removed hither; an honour which has also been recently decreed to Descartes.—The tomb of cardinal de Richelieu, in the midst of the choir of the Sorbonne, is the exquisite performance of Girardon.

The finest college in Paris is that of the Four Nations, called also Mazarin, from the name of the Cardinal, its founder.

There are (or, by this time, probable, *were*) six academies in Paris; namely, the French Academy, founded by cardinal Richelieu; that of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres, by Louis XIV; that of the Sciences; and those of painting and sculpture; architecture; and chirurgery.

Among the public libraries, that lately called the King's, holds the first rank, in respect both to the extent of the buildings, and the number of the volumes. It was founded by Charles V, in 1372. The other libraries are those of St Genevieve, the College of Mazarin, St Victor, of the Doctrinaires, of the Advocats, and

and of the faculty of Medicine. That of St Germain-des-Pres, one of the richest in France, containing between 15 and 20,000 manuscripts, and near 100,000 volumes, is open every day to men of letters.

The Royal (now National) Observatory is built of free-stone, and neither iron nor wood has been employed in the erection. The Botanical Garden is worthy, in every respect, of its late appellation of *Royal*.

The four principal palaces are the Louvre, the Tuilleries, the Palais-Royal, and the Luxemburg. The Louvre is distinguished into the Old and New. The Old Louvre was begun by Francis I. in 1528; and the grand gallery, 1362 feet long, and 30 broad, which joins it to the palace of the Tuilleries, was begun under Charles IX. and finished by Louis XIV. who likewise built, in 1665, the New Louvre. But it is still an unfinished structure. In some of the apartments, different academies hold their sittings; and in others are the workshops and lodging rooms of artists.—The Tuilleries, begun in 1564, by Catharine of Medicis, continued by Henry IV. and completed by Louis XIV. takes its name from its situation in a place, in which were formerly many tile-kilns (*tuilleries*) which, for three or four centuries, furnished the greatest part of the tiles used in Paris. The riding-house, belonging to it, is the place chosen by the national assembly for their sittings, when they removed from Versailles in October 1789. The garden of the Tuilleries, in front of the palace, and on the banks of the Seine, is unquestionably the finest public walk in Paris. From this palace, when attacked by the enraged mob, on the 10th of August 1792, the unfortunate Louis XVI. went for an asylum to the hall of the national assembly, thence to a prison, and thence to a scaffold.—The Palais Royal was built by cardinal Richelieu in 1629, and had the name of the Cardinal's Palace, till Anne of Austria came to reside in it, in 1643, with her son Louis XIV. It has been long the property of the late duke

duke of Orleans; and the interior has been lately embellished with many beautiful buildings, with shops, coffeehouses, and a garden, which render it like a perpetual fair, and one of the most pleasing walks in the city.—The palace of Luxemburg was built by Mary of Medicis, in 1715, and, in form, somewhat resembles Queen's College, Oxford. Its gardens are open to the public on festival days.—The Hotel-des-Invalides, for the wounded and superannuated soldiery, is a magnificent structure, built by Louis XIV; as is the military School, in the Champ de Mars, which was founded by Louis XV. The two principal theatres are the Theatre de la Nation and the Italian Theatre; which, in point of elegance and convenience, are worthy, in every respect, of the capital of a great nation.—The Monnoie, or Mint, is also a noble building, situated on that side of the Seine, which is opposite the Louvre. The Hotel-de-Ville, or Guildhall of the city, is an ancient structure, in the Place de Greve, which was heretofore the common place of execution. Paris is situated in the late province called the Isle of France, and it now forms, with a small district round it, one of the 83 departments of France. It is 70 miles south of Rouen, 265 south-east of London, 625 north-west of Vienna, and 630 north-east of Madrid.

An Account of the MANNERS and CUSTOMS of the
INHABITANTS of *Cochin China*, in Asia.

[From the *Abbe Rochon's Voyage to Madagascar, and the East Indies.*]

COCHIN-CHINA is a kingdom of Asia, which is bounded by that of Tonquin on the north, by the Indian Ocean on the east, by Chiampa on the south, and Cambodia on the west. This country has been hitherto little known to the Europeans. The inhabitants,

tants, compared with the Indians, are brave, active, and industrious. They are fond of truth, and closely adhere to it when they know it. They are, however, poor and ignorant; but extremely polite to each other, and to strangers. They have a great esteem for the Chinese, on account of their learning; and they call their empire Moedaiminh, or the kingdom of light: but since the missionaries have resided among them, they seem to have a greater respect for the Europeans. The king, above all, is very fond of them; and encourages them to frequent his ports for the sake of carrying on commerce with them. The Cochin-chinese are much addicted to women; and polygamy is allowed among them. A man generally has as many wives as he can maintain; and the law gives him great authority over them, as well as over his children. Women convicted of infidelity to their husbands are condemned to be exposed to the fury of elephants. The women, who are not remarkable for their modesty, go quite naked to the middle; and they publicly bathe, without any ceremony, in the view of every body. In their persons, the Cochin-chinese have a great resemblance to the Chinese, except that they are more tawny: their women are beautiful and very fair. Their dress is the same as that which was used in China before the irruption of the Tartars. The Mandarins of letters in Cochin-china have adopted the Japanese dress. They preserve their hair, on which they set great value, and particularly the women, some of whom have it so long that it reaches to the ground.

The religion of this country is the same as that of China. The people frequent pagodas erected in honour of Fo-hi and Tchoua, and their mandarins of letters go to the temple of Confucius, who is their master, as well as that of the Chinese. At present the Christian religion is tolerated, and makes great progress. Some princes and mandarins of the first rank are Christians. We may reckon that there are about
sixty

sixty thousand people in the whole kingdom who have embraced the Christian religion.

All the learning of the Cochin-chinese consists in their being able to read Chinese books, and in acquiring a knowledge of the morality which they contain. It is this knowledge which qualifies them for becoming mandarins.

Cochin-china is only a chain of mountains, the valleys and plains between which are well cultivated. The eminences are abandoned to tygers, elephants, and other animals of various kinds. The mountains though uncultivated, are covered with woods and forests, the timber of which is of great utility. The Cochin-chinese procure from them rose-wood, ebony, iron-wood, sapan, the cinnamon-tree, calembouc, sandal-wood, and in general all those kinds of wood which are used in India for constructing houses, barks, and furniture; or from which gum, balm, and perfumes are extracted. I have even heard it asserted by some of the natives, that the clove-tree is to be found in these mountains.

The Cochin-chinese procure also from their mountains various other productions, such as honey, wax, rattans, and gamboge. They find there likewise, ivory, and even gold, in pretty large quantities. Mines of this metal are very abundant. The most celebrated are those of the province of Cham, situated in a place called Phunrae, where the French missionaries have a church, and where there are a great number of Christians. This place is about eight leagues distant from Faifo. There are other famous mines in the province of Nanlang. Every body, even foreigners, are allowed to work these mines; and they would be very productive, did the inhabitants of the country give themselves the trouble to dig them; but there are few people who choose to apply to this labour, and those who do so are very ignorant of the art of mining. They never dig deeper than the height of a man. In the place where I saw them at work, masses of pure gold, perfectly

perfectly free from the mixture of extraneous bodies, and weighing two ounces, are sometimes found. This gold, collected in dust or small fragments, is afterward formed into cakes, and carried to market, where it is sold like other merchandise. The usual price of it, according to the Chinese value, is a hundred and thirty quans; but it has been sold sometimes for a hundred and seventeen. A great many mines of iron, which in this country is sold at a dear rate, are found also in the mountains.

Land, in Cochin-china, when cultivated, is extremely fertile, and the people reap every year two crops of rice, which is sold almost for nothing. This country abounds with all the fruits of India, such as ananas, mangoes, citrons, oranges, and with many others peculiar to itself. It produces also plenty of pepper, together with arec and betel. Arec, in several provinces, forms the principal riches of the inhabitants; and large quantities of it are every year sold to the Chinese, who come hither to procure it. They have also abundance of cotton; but they are not acquainted with the art of making it into fine cloth. They cultivate mulberry trees, upon which they feed silk-worms, and manufacture a kind of coarse silk-stuffs. They do not, however, succeed but in some kinds of sattin. Raw silk is here sold at a very dear rate: a Cochin-chinese foot costs sometimes two hundred quans. The Cochin-chinese sugar is undoubtedly the finest in India, and this article alone brings immense sums from the Chinese merchants, who carry cargoes of it from Faifo to Canton and Japan, where they gain at least four hundred per cent by it. The best is sold for four quans the Cochin-chinese foot. It is almost all made in the province of Cham, near Faifo. The Cochin-chinese cut their canes before the end of three years, and have a crop annually in the autumn. None of these kinds of grain which we have in Europe grow in Cochin-china, except maize, or Turkey corn. It produces neither
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wheat,

wheat, barley, nor rye, and even few pease or beans. It is indeed very ill supplied with those vegetable productions which form the riches of our kitchen gardens; and this, perhaps, is owing to the people being bad gardeners.

The Cochinchinese employ buffaloes only in cultivating their lands. These animals are stronger than oxen, and support themselves better among the mud of the rice-fields. They have, however, a great many oxen; but they are small, lean, and almost of no use. They have no sheep, and their butchers' shops are very ill supplied with provisions. To make up for this deficiency, they are rich in poultry: fowls, ducks, and pigeons are sold cheap, and game may be procured for little or nothing. These people never eat fish, though they have them excellent, and in great plenty; their rivers, as well as the sea, abound with them.

With regard to the commerce of this country, it may be observed, that the Cochinchinese are neither rich, nor well acquainted with the nature of trade. As to foreign trade, they never carried on any, except with the Chinese and the people of Japan; but the latter, about twenty-five years ago, gave up all intercourse with them, by order of their sovereign, who forbade his subjects to go out of the kingdom. The like prohibition was made in Cochinchina; and, on that account, the Cochinchinese are obliged to be contented with such merchandize as the Chinese bring to them. The inhabitants of Cochinchina, however, are far inferior to the Chinese in acuteness; and the latter, therefore, find very little difficulty in overreaching them. The articles brought them from China are generally tutanag; yellow, red, and white copper; tea, porcelain, embroidered silk stuffs, drugs and medicines of every kind; such as rhubarb, birthwort, ginseng, celandine, spiceries, and a great many roots, of which the Chinese sell large quantities. The Chinese carry thither also abundance of paper, which is
used.

used for burying the dead; gilt and coloured paper for their pagodas and sacrifices; and a little nankeen, together with paintings of all kinds, vermilion, azure, orpiment, and canvas, and cotton cloth. Sommes, a kind of Chinese vessels, go from Honang, loaded with all sorts of earthen-ware and kitchen utensils, for which they find a ready and profitable sale. Those sommes which come from the eastern coast of China, or from Emouy, or Ning-po, bring sometimes with them the merchandize of Japan, which they dispose of to great advantage, and particularly copper and sword-blades.

The sommes which come from the coasts of Cambaja and Siam bring worked copper, drugs, cardamom, peltries, &c.

The articles of merchandize which the Chinese import from Cochin-china, are gold, ivory, eagle-wood, sugar-candy, arec, wood for cabinet-work, and for dying, pepper, musk, a certain kind of salt-fish, birds nests, and drugs, which the Cochin-chinese procure from their mountains, such as the horns of the rhinoceros, gamboge, &c. The Chinese sommes take in return gold, sugar, and horses: these animals are sold at a cheap rate in Cochin-china. The manner in which the Chinese carry on trade in Cochin-china is as follows: as soon as they arrive in sight of the harbour, they find Cochin-chinese pilots, who conduct them in. These pilots, who are of the rank of mandarins, have orders to be always in readiness to afford this assistance to strangers. When they have come to anchor, the captain, with some of his officers, goes on shore, and repairs to court with a general list of his goods, and such presents as are designed for the king. It may be proper here to observe, that business and contracts of every kind begin and terminate with presents; and it is of great importance to bring such as may be agreeable to the sovereign; because, if he is satisfied, he exempts the vessel from paying the duties of anchorage, which are considerable, and which are higher or

lower according to the nature of the merchandize with which it is loaded. The Chinese pay ten per cent. agreeable to an ancient tarif, which determines the price of all commodities imported. On his return from court, the captain unloads his vessel, and transports his goods to a factory, which is visited by the mandarins who preside over the customs, in order to see whether they can meet with any thing curious, or that might be agreeable to the king, or the principal mandarins of the kingdom. These mandarins of the customs present a list of what they wish to buy; and if they find among the cargo any of the articles in their list, they separate them from the rest, and settle the price with the captain, who must be contented with a bill payable in two or three months. Before this visit, the captain can dispose of nothing: he must also be very exact, and make no omission in the list which he presents to the king on his arrival; for if the mandarins of the customs should find any thing not mentioned in the list, the consequences might be very disagreeable. He must, likewise, give some presents to the minister, and to the principal commissioner of the customs, who, in Cochin-china, is always a powerful mandarin, and styled Onlaibotao. With regard to the sale of their merchandize, the Chinese apply to some of the mandarins, who readily become merchants when any thing is to be gained, and who purchase the dearest and most valuable articles. For objects of less importance, there are trusty women, well acquainted with commerce, who each take charge of a few lots, on receiving a small sum for their trouble. An European captain who might go to this country, would easily find rich Christian merchants to assist him.

THE

THE CORNISH CURATE; A TALE.

[WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.]

TO pourtray one's own life with impartiality, and to lay open with candour the movements of the heart; to dare to confess its foibles, and by the test of justice to try its merits; is perhaps as difficult a task as can well be conceived: but, actuated by a regard for the happiness of those who have not yet determined on their future course of life, and hoping that my story may serve either to direct or to deter, I venture to lay it before the public.

I was born in a distant country in a remote corner of the kingdom. My parents were above indigence, and their honour above imputation. A family pride, which had been handed down through a succession of generations, prevented them from stooping to the drudgery of trade: while their hereditary estate, being insufficient to secure a genteel dependence to themselves, was of course too limited to enable them to provide for the contingency of a numerous offspring.

I was the third son, and of course had but little to expect. My father early intended me for the church, and I was placed under an approved master, at a celebrated grammar-school. My diligence, let me say it, since I can without vanity make the assertion, soon procured me the good-will of my master; and the meekness of my disposition, the favour of my school-fellows, of whom I was in a few years considered as the chief, and on every public occasion selected by my master, to prove his own diligence, and display my acquisitions. In seven years I finished my career of classical education, and left the good old gentleman with tears of filial affection; who heightened my feelings by the sympathetic regard which was conspicuous in his own looks.

And here I cannot forbear fondly indulging my fancy with a retrospective view of those happy days, those years of unmingled felicity, when care has not planted her sting in the human breast, or thought launched out into scenes of future action, where misery so often dashes the cup of life with her bitter draught!

There are, I believe, but few persons, however happy they may have been in their progress through life, who have not made the same reflections; and recurred with pleasure to those cloudless hours, when the task, or the dread of correction, were the worst ills that could befall them: when the joys of the heart were pure and unalloyed, the tear soon forgot, and the mind indifferent to what events might occur. If the fortunate have made these reflections, well may I; who have journeyed on one dreary road, since I first entered the path of life, and scarcely have known those intervals of bliss, which the mendicant himself is not forbidden to taste!

From the grammar-school I was removed to the university of Oxford, and entered on the foundation of Exeter College. The same diligent application which had marked my former studies soon rendered me conspicuous in the university; and I was complimented on every occasion, as a youth of uncommon genius, and unwearied assiduity. My heart began to be elated with the applauses which were so lavishly bestowed upon me; I was animated to yet farther exertions of application; and, in four years, took my bachelor's degree, with an éclat which has seldom distinguished a less diligent scholar. I soon became the object of universal admiration in the university; my future greatness was prognosticated in the most flattering terms, as one who would be an honour to literature, and a luminary in the church; but these compliments, however soothing to the youthful bosom, only operated to distress me. The less assiduous could not endure

dare me to bear away the palm of genius on every public occasion; and the proud, the honoured, and the great, began to affect a supercilious contempt in my presence, which I am confident was neither sanctioned by their situations, nor deserved by my conduct; but, as our harmonious Pope says——

“ Envy will merit as its shade pursue ;

“ And, like a shadow, proves the substance true.”

The charms of science, and maxims of philosophy, could neither inspire me with fortitude, nor lull my sensibility. Too partial, perhaps, to my own merit, I was impatient of the slightest appearance of disrespect; and my feelings were, about this time, put to a most severe trial, by the death of my father, after so short an illness, that I was prevented from receiving his last benediction. This calamity more deeply affected me than all my subsequent misfortunes; it was the first I ever suffered, and the keen edge of delicate sensibility had not yet been blunted by a frequent repetition of misery. I resigned myself into the arms of melancholy; and secluding myself from the impertinent or affected condolers of my loss, indulged that exquisite kind of sorrow which shuns the obtrusion of the world.

By my father's will I found myself entitled to 500*l*. which was all I had to combat the world, and establish myself in life; but, had I been rendered by my patrimony what the prudent call perfectly easy, my grief would not have been less poignant, nor my feelings less acute.

As my finances would no longer decently support me at college, and my affliction for the loss of a beloved parent stifled every throb of ambition, and forbade me to launch into a more active course of life, I embraced the first opportunity of an ordination, at once to seclude myself from secular employments, and to gratify my sedentary and studious disposition.

To

To engage in the most sacred offices, without a more laudable view, may be excused in the eyes of an unthinking world, but must certainly render a man highly culpable in the sight of heaven: and, though I am not conscious of ever disgracing my profession, except my poverty and misfortunes may be thought to have degraded it, I have often reflected with shame that I was not influenced by worthier motives.

Having assumed the sacred habit, I set out for my native place with a pain and reluctance I had never before experienced. I reflected, that I was now not only bidding adieu for ever to the seats of the muses, and leaving behind me some valuable friends, to whom I was attached by a similarity of studies; but had likewise the melancholy consideration to support, that I had no longer a father to receive me in his longing arms, or a faithful friend to guard me from the deceptions of the world. At the sight of my native mansion, the tears gushed involuntarily from my eyes; I was overcome with contending passions: and could scarcely support myself into the room where my relations were ready to receive me, before I fell listless on the floor, and enjoyed a temporary suspension of thought, and a consequent relaxation from misery.

On recovering, I found the whole family anxiously attentive to my welfare: and my mother, from her apprehensions for me, was in a state little better than that from which I was restored. She, however, soon regained strength to bless God that I was safe, and that she had lived to see me in holy orders.

Regardless of securing any little advantage that might have accrued to me from my acceptance of a curacy, I continued some time with my mother and elder brother, prosecuting my theological studies with much application, and only allowing proper intervals for exercise or company. Time, the grand restorer, assisted by those doctrines of christianity which are peculiarly comforting to the afflicted, brought me by degrees

grees to a necessary composure of mind. I gradually regained my wonted serenity; and was ardently looking forward to my future destination, when a fresh accident plunged me into the depths of misery, and not only taught me to despair of finding friendship in a heart where the maxims of virtue are not inherent, but convinced me that the ties of blood may be burst asunder at the instigations of passion, and a brother with less reluctance sacrificed than a sensual appetite abandoned.

To alleviate the grief occasioned by a beloved partner's loss, my mother had requested the company of a young lady, named Olivia, the daughter of a neighbouring clergyman. She had often visited in our family; and being nearly of my age, was my constant companion in every childish pursuit: but, as the impression on the breast of infancy is evanescent as the morning dew, or the bloom of the rose, her remembrance had been almost effaced from my mind; and, during the time which we had recently spent together, I had not felt a single emotion in her favour, nor treated her with more attention, than the fair, the lovely, and the young, have always a right to expect from the manly and unpolished heart.

It being now the vernal season, I happened, one fine serene evening, to rove, with a book in my hand, to a considerable distance from home; till finding the shades of night suddenly surrounding me, I hastened to return. My nearest way was through tangled woods and unfrequented paths, and to this I gave the preference; but before I proceeded far, a female voice resounded from a neighbouring copse. Shrieks, entreaties, and prayers, which became more languid as I approached, seemed to be poured out in vain, and the voice died away in broken murmurs. With all the expedition that humanity could inspire, I flew towards the place; but, judge my surprise and sensations, when I beheld Olivia struggling in my brother's arms,

arms, and seemingly overcome by her exertions! At the sight of such an unwelcome intruder, my brother seemed confounded with shame; he instantly forsook his lovely prize; and, with eyes darting indignation, quitted the spot without uttering a single word.

Wounded to the soul with his baseness, and melted by the piteous situation of the lovely object who lay stretched on the earth in a state of insensibility, I was scarcely master of myself. However, I soon summoned a sufficient degree of reason to attempt her revival; and I had the happiness to find that my exertions were not in vain. As she opened her fine blue eyes, and looked me full in the face, I felt an emotion which I had never before experienced. She started back at the sight of such an unexpected deliverer; and notwithstanding my utmost endeavours, relapsed into the same melancholy state. At length I again found means to restore her; when bursting into a flood of tears, "Eugenius," says she, "may every blessing attend your life! May heaven shower its choicest favours on your head! and may some lovely and fortunate fair reward your virtue for preserving mine!"—"My dearest Olivia!" exclaimed I, with all the enthusiasm of love, "the hand of heaven seems conspicuous in this deliverance; and, if I may presume to express the wish that lies nearest my heart, may the same power make me the everlasting guardian of that virtue which I have been so miraculously enabled to save!"—"My deliverer," sweetly returned the ingenuous fair, "is entitled to every acknowledgment I can make; conduct me to my father, and lodge under his sheltering roof the child who is at his disposal." With this requisition I immediately complied; and as we agreed that it would be prudent to conceal the rude assault of my brother, which the malevolent world might have represented more fatal than it really was, we resolved to ascribe the lateness of our arrival to the fineness of the evening.

evening, and the charms of the season, which had tempted us to linger beyond our intended time.

The apology was easily admitted; and as I was invited to stay, I eagerly embraced the offer, as well to pass more time in the company of Olivia, as to recover sufficiently from my perturbation of mind before I met a guilty brother's eye.

Next morning I took leave of Olivia and her father; and, during my walk, felt a dejection of spirits, and heaviness of heart, which could not have been exceeded, if I had been the perpetrator of villany, and not the protector of innocence. The mind seems often prophetic of its own fate, and intuitively to foresee the storm that futurity is about to disclose. I approached my brother with looks of indignation and pity; but, before I could utter a single word, unlocking his bureau, "Receive," says he, "your patrimony, and immediately quit the house! I disclaim for a brother: the wretch who can frustrate my wishes merely to gratify his own, and this under the more detestable mask of sentimental hypocrisy!" Stung to the soul, I replied, "The power who sees the rectitude of my views, and by my means has defeated the villany of yours, will abundantly provide for me! I renounce an alliance with your ignominy, with the same pleasure as you disclaim me for a brother; but let me caution you to beware, lest your passions precipitate you into irretrievable ruin!" With these words I rushed into my mother's apartment; and, falling on my knees, besought her benediction, before the opportunity was for ever closed. Too well acquainted with what had passed, she bathed my face with her tears; and bewailing her hapless situation, encouraged me to hope for a speedy reconciliation, bidding me rely on her unalterable love.

Alas! she lived but a very short time to realize her wishes; for, within three weeks, she fell a martyr to her

her grief, occasioned by the brutal insolence of my brother, in consequence of her partiality to me.

An outcast from my family, and equally disqualified by the delicacy of my feelings, and narrowness of my circumstances, from elbowing my way in the world, I scarcely knew which way to direct my steps. Love, however, which can illumine the darkest hours of life, prompted my return to Olivia, that I might tell her how much my misfortune attached her to my heart. I revealed to the dear charmer my true situation, and concluded by asking her advice respecting my future conduct. She immediately referred me to her father's superior experience; and I accordingly communicated to him my fixed resolution of engaging in a cure, without assigning the most distant reason for quitting my brother's house. In consequence of this communication, I had in a few days the happiness to be informed, that an old gentleman, the rector of Crowan, a village near Falmouth, was in immediate want of a clerical assistant.

To him I presently applied, and without hesitation closed with his offer of allowing me twenty pounds a year; but as this sum would barely find me in board, my patrimony began rapidly to decrease.

Olivia, I need scarcely say, in the mean time engaged all my thoughts. Our love was mutual and sincere; and interest, that powerful incentive to modern contracts, was entirely overlooked by both, as her fortune was still inferior to my own. In a few months she consented to be irrevocably mine, and then I thought my felicity beyond the reach of fate. From this pleasing delusion, however, I had the misfortune soon to be awaked; for finding my income very inadequate to my expences, I began to shudder at the thoughts of involving a beloved wife in want and misery. These gloomy presages were too soon realized by the death of my aged patron; an event which wholly deprived me of employment. This stroke was
followed

followed by the birth of a son; which, though it ought to have taught me economy, and stimulated my exertions, only tended to lull my cares, and deaden my sense of want.

After vainly endeavouring to obtain another curacy, and being disappointed in my expectations of a small living by the machinations of my now-abandoned brother, Olivia's father was attacked with a paralytic stroke, which compelled him to resign the care of his cure to me. The whole amount of his living did not exceed fourscore pounds a year, and consequently little could be allowed for the maintenance of a curate. My Olivia was again pregnant; when I found that, exclusive of some trifling articles of furniture and books, I had scarcely 100*l.* left: and, to add to my distress, a second paralytic stroke, and soon after a third, deprived me of a valuable friend; whose effects, when disposed of, and his debts discharged, produced only about three-score pounds for his daughter's portion.

Being now destitute of every friend, my brother remaining irreconcilably inveterate, and a native bashfulness of disposition, for which the world is not always candid enough to make proper allowances, having prevented me from extending my connections, or securing many friends, I was in such a distressful situation, that my mind began to sink beneath its burden, and to become weary of struggling with its fate.

The prospect, however, again brightened; and I obtained a very desirable curacy of thirty pounds a year, by the interest of a young baronet, who had accidentally seen Olivia and her two infant children, and expressed the warmest desire to serve us. As a present proof of his friendship, he applied to the rector of his parish, of which he was himself patron, to accept my services in the room of a young man, whom an unfortunate and ill-requited attachment had just hurried to an untimely grave.

To Padstow I immediately removed with my dearest Olivia, whose kind solicitude for me was the only consolation of my life; and who, far from blaming me for that anxiety which continually clouded my aspect, kindly sympathized in my griefs, and endeavoured, by the most endearing fondness, to reconcile me to life. Sir Thomas Smith, by whose interposition I had obtained my present establishment, likewise contributed all in his power to render my situation easy; continually loading the children with presents, and offering me the loan of any sum I might have occasion for. Of this offer I too imprudently and fatally availed myself, by borrowing two hundred pounds. To corroborate our good opinion of his generosity, he bade me make myself perfectly easy in my situation; for, on the present incumbent's death, the living should be instantly mine. I thanked him with an ardour that mocked the expressions of form. But, alas! I had to deal with a man of the world; and found too soon that I had nothing to hope, and poured forth my gratitude where my execrations only were due.

This unprincipled young man was our constant visitor, and encouraged our extravagance merely that he might have an opportunity of supplying our wants. My Olivia was charmed with his condescension; and as virtue cannot readily suspect that artifice which it never practised, she congratulated me—she congratulated herself and children—on the advantages we were likely to derive from a friendship which neither of us could suppose to be interested. The contrary, however, soon appeared! Olivia, whose beauty was rather improved than diminished, was invited to celebrate with me a christmas festival at Sir Thomas's. A blameable politeness to my supposed friend easily induced me to drink more plentifully of the wine, with which his board was profusely covered, than my constitution would bear; and as I soon felt its effects, I was conveyed to bed in a state of ebriety and stupefaction.

tion. On Olivia he likewise had the same shameful design; but guarded by the laws of delicate propriety, she resisted his most earnest solicitations. However, as he attached himself entirely to her, his parasites and dependents, who saw plainly that he had views upon her virtue, retired one after another, leaving Olivia and him alone together. Immediately on this he shut the door; and beseeching her attention for a few minutes to an affair which nearly concerned his happiness, he began to insult her with the most violent protestations of love; and swore that if she would not return his passion, he should never see another happy hour; adding, that she might command his fortune and his life, and that what he had already conferred was only a prelude to what he meant to do.

Awakened from her dream of happiness, she sprung up; and, animated with that courage which indignant virtue will ever feel when it comes in contrast with vice, she dared him again to wound her ears with his unhallowed vows; protesting, his conduct should be made known to an injured husband, who would make him severely repent of his temerity. With all the insolence of conscious superiority he then opened the door, and with a smile of contempt informed her, that since she refused his friendship, his fortune, and his love, she should feel the effects of his resentment. These threats, it is evident the base villain must have prepared to put in execution previous to his diabolical invitation; for, before I descended next morning to breakfast, I was arrested at his suit on my note for two hundred pounds, which I had pressed him to accept on his lending me that sum; and as it was not in my power to satisfy one half of the demand, I was hurried away to prison.

My prospects were now entirely blasted. Want, ignominy, and disgrace, presented themselves to my view, in the most hideous aspects; and I could have laid down my life without a sigh, had not a faithful and

affectionate wife, with two infant children, bound me to them with ties of indissoluble regard. My confinement I was truly sensible could only add to their misery; yet the most unfortunate cannot, without reluctance, let go those attachments which are so firmly rooted in the soul, or bid farewell to mortality with a stoical apathy.

But, O God! my heart bleeds afresh at the recollection of the scene I am now going to describe—My Olivia, unable to support her separation from me, requested leave to make my room her habitation.

The fatal request was granted. For a few days I was surrounded by my wife and children: they cheered the prison gloom—But, can I proceed!—I was soon deprived of these comforts for ever! In three short weeks after my commitment, they were carried off by an epidemical fever; and these eyes, which never beheld the misery of a stranger without bestowing the alms of pity's tear, were doomed to behold a wife and two innocents press the same untimely bier.

The pathos of language is too weak to express my sensations; I became delirious, and my own hands had nearly perpetrated a deed my soul abhors—for now I had no more to lose! And, gracious heaven! if at that trying juncture I arraigned thy justice, forgive me! for affliction laid its iron hand too heavy upon me.

By degrees I fell into a settled despondency; and since I entered this miserable room, four years have rolled away their melancholy hours, in which I have hardly beheld the face of a friend, or been soothed by the voice of a relation. The machinations of my unnatural brother, who leagued with Sir Thomas on account of his cruelty to me, have prevented me from obtaining my release, and seem to have shut the gates of mercy on my fate. My only expectation of deliverance is by the hand of death, for whose speedy approach my prayers are continually offered up. When that happy period arrives, my soul shall soar above its enemies;

enemies; and, leaving resentment entirely behind, shall taste that fruition for which my misfortunes here will give it the higher relish.

From my melancholy tale, which I have ardently desired to publish before its authenticity could be disputed, let the sons of pleasure learn to reflect, while they roll in the abundance of riches, and enjoy the completion of every wish, that there are many wretches, like me, whom their licentiousness ruins, and whom their benevolence might save!—Let those then whom the charms of science allure to ascend the summit of fame, timely consider, that learning is not always the path to preferment, and that silent merit may sink unnoticed to the grave! From my fate, too, the defects of our boasted establishment in church and state may be evidently traced; and the great be brought to allow, that some regard ought to be paid to the virtuous and the modest in every sphere of life, and that the road to honours and emoluments should not always be through the gate of superior address and unblushing assurance.

We cannot conclude this pathetic tale, without feeling for the state of the inferior Clergy of this country, as the unfortunate relater, with a pittance not any way equal to a mechanic or labourer, had a character, a situation in life to maintain; and also a beloved wife and family.

Distresses too poignant hurried them untimely to the grave.—On an occasion, pitiable like this, of which there are too many in this kingdom, how much would it be to the general good, if a plan was adopted for a more equal distribution between the incumbent and the man who does the duty. From education and his companions at college, he is taught, nay raised to elevated thoughts, yet how painful must his situation be, that while he labours for the advantage of a future state, he is reduced to the greatest distress for a main-

tenance, and cannot, from his income, either support the character of the scholar or the gentleman.

SOME NOTES FOR HISTORY, AND ALSO THE RECITAL OF MY DANGERS, SINCE THE 31st of May, 1793. By JOHN-BAPTIST LOUVET, *one of the Representatives proscribed in 1793.*

[From the Analytical Review, for July.]

THE numerous executions, and repeated massacres, in Paris and the departments, have excited universal indignation, and thrown an odium on the whole French nation. It is necessary however, to make some allowance for situation and circumstances; to calculate the degree of degeneracy, and even cruelty, superinduced by ages of slavery and oppression; to recollect the horrors of a foreign war new in its kind, and unheard of before in point of extent; to keep in mind the enormities always engendered by civil commotions, and the madness necessarily excited by the temporary deprivation of food, and the dread of approaching famine. After all, these must only be considered as tending to alleviate, rather than to justify the excesses, that have been committed; but upon due investigation it will perhaps be discovered, that the guilt and disgrace attach solely to a bloody and triumphant faction now laid in the dust, and that the crimes, that have stained the annals of France, have been perpetrated by a few individuals, rather than a whole nation.

Mr L. the author of these memoirs, formed one of a very respectable party, termed the *Gironde*, because its most celebrated members, were representatives of that department. Previous to the revolution, he had obtained all that a man of simple manners, and bounded desires, could wish. He resided in the country, of which

which he was passionately fond; and his literary labours, being attended with considerable success, laid the foundation of a fortune, that enabled a person smitten like him with the love of independence, and whose expenses did not exceed eight hundred *livres* a year, to live very comfortably.

He had shut himself up from the world in a house surrounded by a little garden, in 1789, and was then occupied in writing the last six volumes of *Faublas*, when a great event took place in France, which, by destroying the taste for 'frivolous works,' overturned the whole fabric of his fortune. However as he considered the revolution to be at once glorious for his country, and just in itself, he did not repine; on the contrary, when the Bastille was taken by the parisiens, he was the first person in the little town where he resided, to wear the symbol of new-born liberty, which was pinned upon his hat by the fair hands of 'Lodoiska,' now his wife. In his first work, he inculcated many strong republican sentiments throughout the episode of *Pulawski*; and in all his future labours, he had an eye to the immediate situation of his country. His '*Emilie de Varmont*,' was written on purpose to evince the utility, and sometimes the necessity of divorce, and also of the marriage of the clergy. '*L'Anobli Conspirateur, ou le Bourgeois Gentilhomme du dix-huitieme siecle*,' was a comedy of five acts, in which he attacked the ridiculous prejudices of both the new and old nobility; another termed '*L'Election & l'Audience du Grand-Lama Siski*,' was a satire on the 'mummery' of the church of Rome. His only dramatic piece ever acted was '*La grande Revue des Armees noir et blanche*;' this, which was represented twenty-five times, held up the army of *Coblentz* to the ridicule of the parisiens.

Mr L. attended the meetings of his section on all important occasions, and he was one of the first to in-

scribe

scribe his name in the register of the national guards, and to pay patriotic contributions.

‘The greater part of the defenders of the popular cause had been snatched from its support; some by death, others by corruption. The court began openly to conspire against the constitution it had accepted. All, who laboured to destroy it, were certain of the support of the monarch. They were encouraged at one and the same time by emissions of money, well paid journals, officious *vetos*, and all the detestable arts of *machiaavelism*; in short, by the priests of the abbe Maury, the nobles of the army of Conde, and the partisans of the two chambers, headed by la Fayette. I had been one of the small but intrepid band of philosophers, who, at the conclusion of 1791, deplored the fate of a great nation obliged to stop halfway in the career of liberty, and to call itself free, while it had yet a court and a king. Happy however, in beholding the reform of so many ancient abuses, I had resolved to remain faithful to this castrated constitution, hoping that time of itself, and without convulsion, laceration, or hemorrhage, would effect the cure of all our wounds. Yes, by that heaven that reads the heart of man, I swear, that if the court had not continually, and in a thousand instances endeavoured to ravish our *half-liberty* from us, I should never have expected but from time alone, the completion of our freedom. But it became incontestable that the court conspired; and that not content with the insurrections that took place at home, it had also invited foreign assistance. A guilty king, by violating all his oaths, absolved us from our’s. It was the ancient despotism, that he wished to impose once more upon us: well! we enforced a republic upon him.’

He now deemed it his duty ‘to join the feeble but sacred band, which at that time fought for his country;’ he accordingly entered the lists, and thenceforward employed his pen on political subjects alone. On the

25th of December 1792, he read at the bar of the National Assembly a memorial, which he terms 'Ma Pétition contre les Princes,' and afterwards two more, one of them against the department of Paris, which had entreated the king to affix his *veto* to the decree against the refractory clergy. He now became conspicuous by his writings, and was elected a member of the Jacobin society, which at that period consisted of able, intelligent, virtuous, and upright men. The first time he spoke there was on the question of a war with the house of Austria:

'There were then four different factions in the state. That of the Feuillans, headed by la Fayette just nominated commander in chief; he consented to allow the Austrians to penetrate into the French territories, hoping by their assistance to overwhelm the Jacobins, and establish the English constitution. That of the Cordeliers, which endeavoured to ruin Lewis XVI. in order to place Philip d'Orleans on the throne. The ostensible chiefs were Danton and Robespierre: but Marat was the secret leader. Observe that both Robespierre and Danton burned with a desire which they carefully concealed; this was to supplant each other: the former calculated, that he should be able to govern the council of regency, where Philip would have been only master in appearance; the latter flattered himself with the idea of arriving at the dictatorship, after having triumphed over all his rivals.

'The third party, as yet far from being numerous, but considerable on account of its transcendent talents, among whom were Condorcet, Roland, and Brissot, consisted of pure Jacobins, who wished for a republic. And finally the fourth faction was that of the court, which occasionally made use of the rest on purpose to destroy them all; of la Fayette, by holding out the hope of the two chambers; of the Cordeliers, by opposing them to the Jacobins; of the Jacobins, by exciting them to commence an unsuccessful insurrection, which it hoped to

turn

turn to its own advantage. Thus, la Fayette having laid open France to a foreign army, and the Jacobins having marched against the castle of Thuilleries, around which they were expected to be massacred, there would neither have been a constitution of 1789, nor an English constitution, nor a republic; on the contrary the ancient despotism would have been restored, and its oppressions rather augmented than curtailed.

'It was in this situation of affairs, that the great question about a war with Austria was agitated at the Jacobins. The Cordeliers did not wish for hostilities because they would confer too much power on la Fayette, the avowed enemy of d'Orleans; but the Jacobins were eager for them, conscious that a continuation of peace, during six months more, would either strengthen a despotic sceptre in the hands of Lewis XVI, or convey an usurped one into that of d'Orleans, and that war only, a speedy war, could lead to a republic'.

On this occasion, Mr L. joined Brissot, whom he had never before seen, and attacked Robespierre with considerable success. He soon became vice president of the society, and was about to be nominated minister of justice, but was precluded from this appointment by the intrigues of the Cordeliers. Having been introduced to Roland, whose virtues he repeatedly extols, he became the editor of a very celebrated paper, posted up in Paris, and distributed in the departments, called *la Sentinelle*. Dumouriez, at that time minister for foreign affairs, and who, notwithstanding he asserts the contrary in the work just published, after the execution of Lewis, affected to be a staunch republican, proposed to send him as ambassador to Constantinople; but this was prevented by a severe paragraph reflecting on his conduct, he having contrived at this period to dismiss the three patriotic ministers, Servant, Claviere, and Roland.

On the 10th of August L. assisted in saving the Swiss soldiers, many of whom were concealed by Brissot and
Gensonne

Genfonne in the press, belonging to the diplomatic committee. Danton, who is said to have hidden himself during the engagement, appeared armed with a monstrous long sabre at the head of the battalion of Marseilles, as soon as the danger was over. As to Robespierre, 'more cowardly and no less hypocritical,' he durst not show his face until four and twenty hours after the palace was taken. The great 'exterminator' ascended the tribune on the 2d of September, to read his lists of proscription, and enact his decrees of death. The fate of Brissot, Vergniaud, Guadet, Condorcet, Roland, and Louvet, was resolved upon, and Pache soon after demanded the heads of twenty two members.

In the mean time the election of the Convention took place, and Louvet was nominated one of the Deputies for Loiret, which he had never once visited during the whole course of his life. He began by denouncing Robespierre, and he blames the *Brissotiens* for not supporting him on this occasion. He afterwards, in concert with Buzot, moved, and obtained a decree for the expulsion of the Bourbons. He himself was about the same time expelled from the Jacobin society, along with Roland, Lanthenas, and Girey-Dupre.

Dumouriez now joined the Orleans faction, and the plot of the 10th of March is said to have been hatched in his camp. At length the *commune* of Paris rose in open insurrection against the representatives of the nation, and an armed force pointed their cannon at its members: it may not be amiss here to observe, that its revolutionary committee at that time consisted, for the most part, of foreigners, for Gufman was a Spaniard, Pache a Swiss, Dufourny an Italian, and Marat a native of Neuchatel.

Valaze, and Genfonne, while they urged the other proscribed deputies to depart and rouse the departments in the cause of their country, refused to accompany them, observing, that some ought to remain as hostages,

hostages, and guarantees of their innocence. For the particulars of their romantic adventures, whilst traversing a considerable portion of France; with the author's imminent perils, and hair-breadth escapes, we must refer our readers to the work itself, from which they cannot fail to derive much entertainment. It appears evident, that they were well-meaning and sincere men, and that they knew how to die, as well as to live republicans. Louvet, after experiencing a variety of disasters, was at length restored to his seat in the Convention, of which he has since been made president, and is now a bookseller at Paris. He is enraged at the bloody proscription of the Jacobins, and affirms, that they were either disguised royalists, or men who had 'sold' themselves to the enemies of France. Prejudice apart, their victories were far too brilliant and decisive for us to give entire credit to this assertion. We can at one and the same time admire their energy, and condemn their ferociousness.

The translation of this very interesting narrative is faithfully executed.

The prevalent temper of mind in France, at that period, is strikingly depicted in the following interesting Extracts from the above mentioned work.

AFTER having long studied mankind in the tumult of a great city, in the midst of their most effeminate habits, the conveniencies of luxury, and the indulgences of gallantry, which they termed love: after having perceived, in these sybarites lost in softness, a degenerate people, seeming to have just strength enough to bear the enormous weight of their yoke without absolute despair: I had ventured to assert, that the oppressed would never have courage to attempt to shake off their yoke, or the oppressors to resist an insurrection,

tion, if it were not impossible for it to take place. I was but in part mistaken; a great change in the government of France announced itself; private interest roused strong passions; but their first conflict happily was more noisy than destructive.

Events afterwards assumed a more serious character: bold factions showed themselves. Betwixt the court, which intrigued for the restoration of all the old abuses, and the party of Orleans, which appeared to combat them, only to revive them for its own advantage, some men conspiring in the cause of virtue made their way. After their generous exertions, a convention assembled, charged with *constituting* a republic, which unhappily it could do no more than *decree*. At first it was but an empty name: soon it was a fatal one; for it rendered the *thing itself* abortive. However, dragged almost in despite of myself upon the grand theatre, which I imagined that of the noblest passions, what did I at the first glance perceive? From the midst of the mountain to its very summit, presumptuous ignorance pretending to all the advantages of celebrity, greedy covetousness grasping at wealth, vile debauchery thirsting for lengthened indulgences, atrocious vengeance preparing for assassination, base envy despairing of the influence of talents, and insatiate ambition burning with the desire of power and the expence of every crime. And when villains like these began to acquire the ascendancy; when the mob, mounting on heaps of spoil and the ruins of property, obedient to their voice, bathed in seas of innocent blood; when plunder systematically conducted by *magistrates*, atheism reduced to principle, and two hundred thousand scaffolds ordained by the law, disfigured my country; I was compelled to acknowledge, that, of all kinds of slavery, that induced by anarchy is the most intolerable. When the ignorant and misguided multitude reigns, crimes are as numerous as masters. One betakes himself to robbery, another delights in murder:

one seeks pleasure in harassing, imprisoning, tormenting his enemy; another chooses rather to *require* his wife; a third, disdaining to mince his words, likes better to ravish his daughter, too happy if the villain do not massacre her after. You would say, that every one exerts himself to invent some new crimes, over which nature has not yet groaned: as soon as one is found, it is deified; and other villains labour with eagerness to make some new discovery, that shall have equal success. Thus in my dishonoured country many thousands of banditti make profession of crime; and amongst crimes prefer, select, and cry up, what are most shameful, most disgusting, most horribly new. Thus after the affair of Vendee a representative forgot himself so far as to style a hangman *the avenger of the people*, and to call by the name of *civic virtue* that ferociousness, which led him to engage, in a full *assembly of the people*, to cut off, every day perhaps, twenty Frenchmen's heads, and to keep his engagement. Thus at *Commune-affranchie*, (what execrable mockery in such a change of name!) *Collot-d'Herbois*, a representative of the people, *Ronsin*, the commander of an army, and some other *patriots*, deliberated coolly, for hours, in what way to assassinate with most solemn cruelty eight or ten thousand Lyonnese. Thus at the noise of the cannister-shot, that tore them to pieces, and the repeated blows of the sabre, with which those who survived this were dispatched, a numerous people made the air ring with applause. Thus the *guillotine* becomes the national altar, to which brother will citizenly drive brother; or the father his son. Thus an unhappy wife, guilty of having accompanied her husband to the place of punishment with groans, is condemned, to the great satisfaction of the multitude, to pass several hours under the fatal instrument; which sheds on her, drop by drop, the fresh spilt blood of her beloved partner, whose corpse is close by her—there—on the scaffold!—Thus, at once, as a

torrent

torrent restrained by no dikes, an immeasurable mass of crimes unknown to the fiercest nations, spreads over a vast empire, and threatens to deluge the globe. O why could nothing less than this experience convince me of the fatal truth, that, without any distinction of poverty or opulence, greatness or obscurity, I will say even, in general, of perfect ignorance or empty knowledge, and with the single exception of *virtue*, which belongs but to a few privileged philosophers, men must be slaves; since men are either wicked themselves, or crouch before them who are so!

While we had any hope of bringing down that impious sect, we traversed the departments, less to seek an asylum for ourselves, than to raise up enemies against it. Vain attempt! the disgusting machiavelianism of Hebert was to carry all before it. Already fear, under the name of prudence, began to divide the band of departments, to break up salutary measures, and endanger liberty in her last retreat. At Marseilles, at Bourdeaux, in almost all the principal cities, the tardy, indifferent, timid householder, could not resolve to quit his home for a moment: to mercenaries he entrusted his cause and his arms; as if it were difficult to foresee, that the man hired by him might, soon be hired against him. On the other hand the mountain, ardent, daring, full-fledged in guilt, drew the sword against its country. For the sake of broaching a few casks, surprising a few women, and breaking open a few strong boxes, worthless soldiers engaged in the service of the mountain; to the cry of long live the republic, they cut the throats of republicans; and to make their country free, they ran to subjugate it. Spewed out from the *capital*, as from a modern Rome, the vilest imps of royalism in disguise, the most infamous agents of corruption, brought fetters to the *conquered provinces*, already prepared to prostrate themselves before their bloody proconsulate. Cities, once the proudest, began to crouch before two or three ja-

cobins. Lost was the republic! and we, its unhappy founders, were doomed to undergo the most dreadful fate, that could attend a few proscribed persons well known, whom every villain pursued, and every coward abandoned. They, whose property we had constantly protected in the midst of dangers, offered us not, in our distress, the least portion of that fortune, the whole of which they the next day would deliver up on their knees to the first robber, who would seize it. They, whose lives we had defended for ten months, at the hazard of our own, would refuse to open their doors to us, rather than expose theirs a moment in our behalf. Amidst the horrors of gloomy nights and stormy skies, exhausted with fatigue, having wandered all day in the woods without respite, famished with hunger, raging with thirst, nothing was left us to supply our continually renewing wants, or defend us from assassins, but our courage, our innocence, a remnant of hope, and the miracles of an evidently protecting Providence. We shall see friends, savage through cowardice, refuse to know their friend. For me was reserved this trial, the most painful of all I have undergone! Wretched man! friends of twenty years proof will drive thee from their door; will drive thee back even to the feet of the scaffold. I have seen men in a body in their public life, and had detested them: I had reason to know them too well individually in their private life, and hatred was succeeded by contempt. Since, even in a country which I thought about to be regenerated, the good are so pusillanimous and the wicked so violent, it is clear, that every aggregate of men, pompously called *people* by fools like me, is in reality but a feeble herd, happy to crouch to a master*. Whether it be a Robespierre or a Massanello, a Marat or a Nero, a Caligula or a Châlier, a Hebert or a Pitt, a Cartouch even or an Alexander, a

Desfrues

* Let my situation be remembered, and my excess of grief may be an excuse for such reflections.

Desrués or an Orleans, what matters it? Every villain, if he be ambitious, and circumstances push him on, may come to be what is called a great man: only sometimes the most able is precipitated from the height into the abyss below; whilst to reign is to be most miserable*.

Louvet's description of Charlotte Corday.

WHILST we were all lodged in the town house, (*a l'intendance*) a stout, handsome young woman, of an open, yet modest behaviour, called, wishing to speak with Barbaroux. In her face, which was at once that of a fine and pretty woman, and in her whole carriage, there was a mixture of gentleness and dignity, which indicated her heavenly mind. She always came attended by a servant, and waited for Barbaroux in a hall, through which some one or other of us was continually passing. Since that woman has attracted the notice of the whole universe, we have mutually recollected all the circumstances of her visits; of which, it is now clear, a favour solicited for one of her relations was only a pretext. Her true motive was no doubt to

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become

* Cromwell, whom Robespierre resembled so strongly, except in talents; who, naturally cruel and irreligious, affected, with double hypocrisy, to be inclined to clemency and zealous in the cause of God; was no sooner on the throne, than he fancied himself continually surrounded with assassins. He trusted not to his own guards. By day he carried pistols in his pocket, and at night he placed them under his pillow. He scarcely dared to eat: to sleep he was a stranger. Every night he changed his apartment and his bed. Who would not prefer death to a crown at such a price? Many cowardly villains, no doubt: but could we deem them fortunate in obtaining it? Is it not more than probable, that even for them it would be better to die?

become acquainted with some of the founders of that republic, for which she was going to devote herself: perhaps, too, she was not unwilling, that some day her features should be present to their memory. Never will they be effaced from mine. O Charlotte Corday! in vain have all the *cordelier* painters apparently conspired together, to give a disfigured copy of thy charms: thou wilt ever be before our eyes, gentle yet noble, modest and beautiful, as thou always appearedst to us: thy mien will have that dignified firmness, and thy look that fire tempered by modesty, that fire with which it sparkled the eve of the day, on which thou departedst to level with the dust a man, whose horrible deformity it will be equally impossible for them to make us forget, whatever be their efforts to represent it less hideous.

I declare, I affirm, that she never mentioned a word of her design to any one of us. And if such actors took council, and she had consulted us, should we have directed her dagger to Marat? Did we not know, that he was so afflicted with a severe disease, as to have scarcely two days to live?—Let us humble ourselves before the decrees of Providence; of that Providence, which saw fit, that Robespierre and his accomplice, should live long enough to destroy one another, long enough for it to be completely proved to the French nation, the eyes of which will ultimately be opened by this solemn revelation, that they were traitorous royalists, and he the most ambitious of tyrants.

In the turmoil of the great events then passing, few people sufficiently attended to the sublimeness apparent in the dignified brevity of the answers, that astonishing woman gave the vile knaves, by whom she was tried; and to the grandeur of the thoughts and expressions of that immortal epistle, which she addressed to Barbaroux, a few hours before her death, and which, from a profound sentiment of republican delicacy, that such a mind alone could feel, she dated from *the apartment*

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ment of Brissot. Every thing beautiful in the French revolution will pass away, or that epistle will be handed down to future ages. O my dear Barbaroux, in thy fate, so deserving of envy altogether, never have I really envied any thing, but the happiness of having thy name prefixed to that epistle. Mine, however, at least she pronounced on her examination. I have received, therefore, a recompence for all my labours, an indemnification for my sacrifices, my troubles, the corroding anxiety I suffer in thy absence, my Lodoiska, and the last tortures reserved for me, if I learn, that our ferocious prosecutors, skilled to wound me in the tenderest part, have accomplished thy assassination. Yes, happen what may, I have at least my recompense: Charlotte Corday has named me, I am sure I shall not wholly perish.——Charlotte Corday, thou future idol of republicans, in that elysium, where thou reposest with a Vergniaux, a Sydney, a Brutus, listen to my last prayers: intreat of the Eternal, to protect my wife, to save her, to restore her to me: intreat him to grant us, in honourable poverty, some free corner of the globe, where we may lay our heads; some honest trade, by which I may support Lodoiska; some complete obscurity, to hide us from our enemies; some few years of love and happiness. And if my prayers be not heard, if my Lodoiska must perish on a scaffold, at least may I quickly hear the news, and I will fly to the place where thou reignest, to join my wife, and converse with thee.

I have taken a retrospective view of the last paragraph, and am aware, after having read it, that many will call me a fanatic. A fanatic let me be: great things were never achieved by men of cold hearts. That young man too was a fanatic, whose action history will record. How I regret, that I have forgotten his name!——The beautiful Corday was just led to prison; a young man ran up, intreating to be accepted as a prisoner in her place, and to undergo the punishment

punishment prepared for her. I need not add, that the cordeliers granted but a part of his petition; they suffered him not long to survive her, for whom he wished to die. *

AFFECTING MEMORIAL,

IN BEHALF OF MARIA THERESA CHARLOTTA DE BOURBON, DAUGHTER OF LOUIS XVI. LATE KING OF THE FRENCH.

THIS affecting memorial, which is taken from the *Courier Universel*, published at Paris, on the 20th of June last, while it describes some of the horrid enormities inflicted on the royal prisoners during their cruel captivity, serves to demonstrate that the Liberty of the Press is at least beginning to revive, and affords a slight hope that the reign of reason, if not of royalty, may be expected, in the end, to prevail over the present detestable anarchy.

"THE public have as yet no idea of all the atrocities committed in the different prisons, especially against the members of the ancient royal family, under the reign of our last tyrants. In all probability, even our present government is not sufficiently acquainted with all these enormities. When Marie Antoinette was conveyed into the Conciergerie, she was shut up in a room, called the Council-room, which is considered as the most

* Another, named Adam Lux, deputy extraordinary for Mentz, penetrated with admiration, hastily composed a little oration on the action of Corday, and carried his boldness so far as to print it, with a proposal to erect a statue to the heroine, inscribed, GREATER THAN BRUTUS. He was immediately thrown into the Abbey. On entering it, he cried with a transport of joy, "I am going to die, then, for Charlotte Corday!" His head was cut off a few days after.

most unwholesome in the whole prison. On pretence of providing her with an attendant, a spy was sent to her, a fellow of a shocking mien, and dreadful voice; who, besides this employment, was charged with the most disgusting and most dirty work in the Conciergerie. This fellow's name was Barassin; he was by trade a robber and assassin; and had been condemned to fourteen years imprisonment by the criminal tribunal. The gaol-keeper, who wanted an additional *dog*—a prison term—that knew the watch-word, had obtained leave for this Barassin to suffer his punishment in that prison, instead of in a galley. Such was the honest person, who, as *valet de chambre*, attended on her who was Queen of France. Yet, a short time before her death her attendant, the robber on the highway, was taken from her; and a centinel—a *gen d'arme*—placed in her room, by whom she was closely watched day and night, and who was not separated from her, even during her rest, on a hard bed, but by a very bad screen ready to tumble in pieces. In this dreadful abode, the offspring of Roman emperors had no other cloathing but a coarse black gown, stockings full of holes, which she was daily obliged to mend, and no shoes. Such was the fate of Marie Antoinette, before whom once all Europe lay prostrate! on whom all the honours that can be bestowed on a mortal being were lavished, and to whom all the treasures of the world were open!

“After the death of their mother, or after she had left the Temple, the children of Louis XVI. were entirely forsaken. They had no change of linen; and, it is said, that an excess of uncleanness engendered first the eruptions of the skin, and afterwards the sores, which put a period to the existence of one of them. The following is a fact, attested by one of the public functionaries of the ancient commons of Paris, who was confined in the Luxembourg prison about a month or six weeks before the ninth of Thermidor. All kinds of guards and attendance had been withdrawn from
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the children; they were left quite by themselves, each in a separate room, which no one was allowed to enter, not even to make their beds, or sweep away the dirt. Their dinners were conveyed to them through holes made in their rooms: they were called in a savage tone, to receive them from the carrier, and to return the empty plates of the day before.

"The boy lay amidst filth and dirt, like an abandoned animal, on a bed never touched, never made; for he had neither sense nor strength enough to do it himself. His sister, on the contrary, swept her room every day, cleaned it as well as she could, kept herself clean, and took care even of her toilette, as much as she was able to do in a horrid prison, where she was bereft even of the first necessities.

"This cruelty against unfortunate children—unfortunate not only on account of the severe confinement they suffered, but still more so from the utmost attention shewn them before their imprisonment, from the honours bestowed on them, and the profound respect with which they had been treated—is not the only one which has been committed against them. I am going to relate another of the most peculiar kind, which belongs to the commons; this master-piece of democracy, which was to fix at Paris all the civil and political liberty, all the virtues, all the glories of exalted Rome—all the arts, and all the urbanity, of polished Greece—after the retreat of the famous Simon, a cobbler by trade, and by appointment instructor of the infant son of Louis XVI. Two men, or rather two mastiffs of the commons, watched day and night around the room of this child. At the fall of day he was ordered to bed, because they did not chuse to allow him a light. A little time after, when he enjoyed his first sleep, one of these hell-hounds, afraid lest the devil, or the aristocrates, might carry him off through the vault of the prison, cried out to him, in a dreadful voice—"Capet, where art thou? Dost thou sleep?"—"Here I am!" answered

answered the poor infant, half asleep, and trembling in his whole body. "Come here, let me see thee!" Quite naked, and sweating all over, the child ran to him, saying—"Here I am! what is the matter?"—"I wanted to see thee: go, lay down again!" Two or three hours after, the other scoundrel went through the same manœuvre, and the poor infant was obliged to obey."

Of what must be composed the infernal wretches who could thus dishonour human nature, by the wanton persecution of helpless infancy! Yet these are the Philosophers who are to reform the world, by their just notions of virtue, of wisdom, and of liberty!

THE CLOWN AND THE LAWYER,

BY SIR JOHN RAMSEA.

HOB visited BRIEF, with a very long face,
Put a piece in his palm, then stated his case.
Quoth the Lawyer—"As far as I *yet* understand,
You are right as my nail, I declare *by this hand*:
But doctors oft differ; so, were you my brother,
I can't answer, till *that* too be *fee'd*, for the *other*.
Then spreading his hand, like a churchwarden's plate,
"Come, come, my good friend, don't stand scratch-
ing your pate!
But *wet t'other eye*, like a soul, as you ought,
Time's too precious for me thus to waste it for nought,"
Says HOB—"Here's the stuff! but, as I am a ninny,
I'm handing thee, now, Master BRIEF, my *last* guinea;
So I hopes as you'll give me the best of advice!"—
"To be sure! to be sure!" cries BRIEF, "in a trice,
Then, know that those words which I last heard you say,
Have driv'n all at first that I told you away.

Gold!

No matter what Cause, or what Lawyer, or Court,
Gold! Gold! my friend HOB, is of all the support;
With that, to each point of the compass we rove;
Without it, the devil a *limb* of us move!

Ev'ry hope that I had, with your money, is gone;
Your cause is a bad one, and you are undone.

To stand on you hav'n't, as we say, a leg;

And no Lawyer, in England, for you'll stir a peg."

HOB look'd mighty sheepish, and mutter'd a curse,
As he saw Lawyer BRIEF put the cash in his purse.

"What you tell me," he cried, as he slowly withdrew,

"I fears, master BRIEF, may, for *once*, be too *true* :

But if I durst tell thee a piece of *my* mind,

Tho' I *have* been main *foolish*, I an't yet quite *blind* ;

And you *Limbs* of the *Law*, I now sees very plain,

Be all, as a body may say, *rogues in grain* !

Yes, ecod! had I known half I now know before,

I'd as soon enter'd hell, Master Brief, as your door ;

And I wish I may suffer, with you, hell's worst pain,
If ever I visit a Lawyer again !"

TOPOGRAPHICAL CURIOSITIES.

[From Lysons' Environs of London, Vol. II.]

ACTON.

RICHARD BAXTER, the celebrated non-conformist divine, resided many years in this parish after the restoration: his house was near the church, where he constantly attended divine service, and sometimes preached, having a licence for so doing, provided he uttered nothing against the doctrines of the church of England. Sir Matthew Hale was his contemporary at Acton, and lived in habits of intimacy with him,

CHELSEA.

CHELSEA.

The well-known coffee-house at Chelsea, called Don Saltero's, was first opened in the year 1695, by one Salter, a barber, who drew the attention of the public by the eccentricities of his conduct, and by furnishing his house with a large collection of natural and other curiosities, which still remain in the coffee-room, where printed catalogues are sold, with the names of the principal benefactors to the collection. Sir Hans Sloane contributed largely out of the superfluities of his own museum. Vice-admiral Munden, and other officers who had been much upon the coast of Spain, enriched it with many curiosities, and gave the owner the name of Don Saltero.

THE celebrated Sir Thomas More purchased an estate at Chelsea, and settled his family there about the year 1520. His house was situated near the water-side, and, as Erasmus describes it, was 'neither mean, nor subject to envy, yet magnificent enough.' He added to its conveniencies by building at the end of his garden a library and a chapel, where he passed much of his time in retirement and devotion. To give general anecdotes of Sir Thomas More, would be superfluous; I shall confine myself therefore to such as are connected with his residence at Chelsea. The capricious monarch to whom he owed his rise and fall, frequently visited him at this place with the utmost familiarity, and would sometimes dine with him uninvited. Erasmus' description of the manner of Sir Thomas More's living with his family at Chelsea, exhibits a fine picture of domestic happiness: 'There he converseth (says he) with his wife, his son, his daughter-in-law, his three daughters and their husbands, with eleven grand-children. There is not any man living so affectionate to his children as he; and he loveth his old wife as well as if she was a young maid.' When we are told that this wife was not only inclining to old

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age, but of a nature somewhat harsh, and very worldly, or as his great grandson More says, of good years; of no good favour nor complexion, nor very rich; her disposition very near and worldly, we must allow him great merit for his affectionate behaviour toward her; nor should we omit to commend the means he made use of to soften the moroseness of her disposition: 'he persuaded her (it seems) to play upon the lute, viol, and some other instruments, every day performing thereon her task; and so with the like gentleness he ordered his family.'—'Such is the excellence of his temper, (continues Erasmus) that whatsoever happeneth that could not be helped, he loveth it as if nothing could have happened more happily. You would say there was in that place Plato's academy; but I do his house an injury in comparing it to Plato's academy, where there were only disputations of numbers and geometrical figures, and sometimes of moral virtues. I should rather call his house a school, or university of Christian religion; for though there is none therein but readeth or studieth the liberal sciences, their special care is piety and virtue; there is no quarrelling, or intemperate words heard; none seen idle; that worthy gentleman doth not govern with proud and lofty words, but with well-timed and courteous benevolence; every body performeth his duty, yet is there always alacrity; neither is sober-mirth any thing wanting.'

Sir Thomas More was a great benefactor to the church of Chelsea, constantly attended divine service there, and frequently assisted at its celebration. The duke of Norfolk coming one day to dine with him while he was chancellor, found him at church, wearing a surplice, and singing with the quire; 'God's body, my lord chancellor,' said the duke as they returned to his house, 'what a parish clerk! A parish clerk! you dishonour the king and his office.' 'Nay, said Sir Thomas, you may not think your master and mine will

will be offended with me for serving God, his master, or thereby count his office dishonoured.'

The morning after he had resigned the great seal, he went to Chelsea church with his lady and family, where, during divine service, he sat as usual in the quire, wearing a surplice; and because it had been a custom after mass was done, for one of his gentlemen to go to his lady's pew, and say, 'My lord is gone before;' he came now himself, and making a low bow, said, 'Madam, my lord is gone.' She thinking it to be no more than his usual humour, took no notice of it; but in the way home, to her great mortification, he unriddled the jest, by acquainting her with what he had done the preceding day.'

Holbein, who came to England in 1526, was first patronized by Sir Thomas More, and during the space of three years lived in his house at Chelsea, where he was employed in drawing the portraits of his patron and his friends. Among the numerous works attributed to this celebrated master, none perhaps are more noted than the groups of Sir Thomas More's family; but very good reasons have been assigned for supposing that though the heads were sketched by Holbein, the pictures were finished by an inferior artist.

Among other instances of Sir Thomas More's benevolent disposition, we are told, that he hired a house at Chelsea for the reception of aged people, who were supported by his bounty, and that it was the province of his amiable daughter Margaret to see that all their wants were duly relieved. This great man was beheaded in 1535, for refusing to take the oath which acknowledged the king's supremacy. It may be thought worthy of notice, perhaps, that the morning he was summoned to repair to Lambeth for the purpose of taking that oath, he went to his parish church attended mass, and received the sacrament; after which, stepping into his barge, he bid a last adieu to

the favourite scenes of his retirement, and resigned himself to the fate he saw approaching.

A few years previous to his death, Sir Thomas More caused a vault to be made on the south side of the chancel of Chelsea church, to which he removed the bones of his first wife, and which he designed for the place of his own interment. It has been a matter of dispute whether his body was deposited there or not; some authors say, that his daughter Margaret, whose pious affection to her father's memory has frequently been the theme of panegyric, removed his corpse from the Tower, where it had been buried, to the vault at Chelsea. More, the chancellor's great grandson, who wrote his life, does not mention this fact; and it has been thought unlikely, from the circumstance of bishop Fisher's body having been removed to the Tower by Margaret Roper, that it might be interred, according to his request, near her father, who was there buried. Soon after Sir Thomas More resigned the office of lord chancellor, he wrote an epitaph for himself, which is engraved upon a tablet of black marble on the south wall of the chancel at Chelsea. It has been several times printed, but not correctly.

A letter of Sir Thomas More's is said to be extant, in which he boasts of having expressed his enmity to heretics in his epitaph. How much is it to be lamented, that a bigoted zeal should have thus perverted a disposition in every other respect so charitable and benevolent!

THE duchess of Northumberland was a singular instance of the vicissitudes of fortune: having been the wife of one of the greatest men of that age, she lived to see her husband lose his head upon a scaffold*; to see one son share his father's fate; another escape it only by dying in prison; and the rest of her children

living

* John Duke of Northumberland was beheaded August 22, 1553, for proclaiming lady Jane Grey.

living but by permission. Amid this distress, which was heightened by the confiscation of her property, she displayed great firmness of mind, though left destitute of fortune and of friends, till the arrival of some of the nobility from the Spanish court, who interested themselves so warmly in her favour, that they prevailed upon the queen to reinstate her in some of her former possessions; and she conducted herself with such wisdom and prudence as enabled her to restore her overthrown house even in a reign of cruelty and tyranny. Her surviving progeny were no less remarkable for their prosperity than their brethren for their misfortunes. Ambrose was restored to the title of earl of Warwick, and enjoyed many other honours and preferments. Robert was created earl of Leicester, and became one of queen Elizabeth's prime ministers, and her daughter Mary was the mother of Sir Philip Sydney.

The duchess, a short time before her death, wrote her will with her own hands. She bequeathed to Sir Henry Sidney the gold and green hangings in the gallery at Chelsea, with her lord's arms and hers; to her daughter Mary Sydney, her gown of black barred velvet furred with sables, and a gown with a high back of fair wrought velvet; to her daughter Catherine Hastings, a gown of purple velvet, a summer gown, and a kirtle of new purple velvet to it, and sleeves; to Elizabeth daughter of lord Cobham, a gown of black barred velvet furred with lizards; to the duchess of Alva, her green parrot, having nothing else worthy for her. 'My will (says she) 'is, earnestly and effectually, that little solemnity be made for me, for I had ever have a thousand foldes my debts to be paid; and the poore be given unto, than any pompe to be shewed upon my wretched carkes; therefore to the wormes will I goe, as I have afore wrytten in all poyntes, as you will answer yt afore God. And you breke any one jot of

it, your wills hereafter may chauce to be as well broken.'

In another place, she says, 'After I am departed from this worlde, let me be wonde up in a shete, and put into a coffyn of woode, and so layde into the ground with such funeralls as parteyneth to the buriall of a corse. I will at my yeres mynde have such devyne service as myne executors shall thynke mete, with the whole arms of father and mother upon the stone graven; nor in no wise to let me be opened after I am dead.—I have not loved to be very bold afore women, much more wolde I be lothe to come into the hands of any lyving man, be he physician or surgeon.' Notwithstanding her strict injunctions to the contrary, she was buried with great solemnity, Feb. 1, 1554-5, two heralds attending, with many mourners, six dozen of torches, and two white branches, and 'a canopy borne over her effigies in wax, in a goodly hearse, to the church of Chelsey.'

A TRADITION prevails at Chelsea, that the famous Nell Gwyn first projected the scheme of building an hospital for superannuated soldiers, and persuaded the king to become the founder. The sign-board of a public-house, not far from the college, is still decorated with her portrait, underneath which is an inscription ascribing the foundation to her desire. Whether this celebrated lady has any claim to dispute the palm with Sir Stephen Fox, it would be difficult perhaps to determine. The following paragraph from a newspaper of that day, affords a presumption that she had been resident in the neighbourhood: 'We hear, that madam Ellen Gwyn's mother, sitting lately by the water-side at her house by the neat-houses near Chelsey, fell accidentally into the water, and was drowned.' Domestic Intelligencer, August 5, 1679.

IN

In the burial ground, belonging to Chelsea college, near the entrance is this singular epitaph: 'Here rests William Hiseland, a veteran, if ever soldier was, who merited well a pension, if long service be a merit, having served upward of the days of man; ancient, but not superannuated; engaged in a series of wars, civil as well as foreign, yet maimed or worn out by neither. His complexion was fresh and florid; his health hail and hearty; his memory exact and ready. In stature he exceeded the military size; in strength he surpassed the prime of youth; and what rendered his age still more patriarchal, when above a hundred years old, he took unto him a wife. Read, fellow-soldiers, and reflect that there is a spiritual warfare as well as a warfare temporal. Born the 1st of August 1620; died the 17th of February 1732, aged 112.'

EXTRACT FROM "AN APPEAL TO IMPARTIAL POS-
 "TERITY; BY CITIZENNESS ROLAND, WIFE OF
 "THE MINISTER OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT,"
just published.

SCARCELY had I sitten down, when I heard a knock at my door. It was about midnight. A numerous deputation of the commune appeared, and enquired for Roland.—'He is not at home.'—'But,' said the person, who wore an officer's gorget, to me, 'where can he be? When will he return? You know his way of life, and can judge when we may expect him.'—'I know not,' replied I, 'whether your orders authorise you to put such questions to me; but this I know, that nothing can oblige me to answer them. Roland quitted his house, whilst I was at the convention: he could not then make me his confident: and I have nothing more to say to you.'

The

The troop withdrew much dissatisfied. I perceived that a sentry was left at my door, and a guard at that of the house. From this I inferred, that I must summon strength to support whatever might happen. Exhausted with fatigue, I ordered supper, finished my letter, entrusted it to my faithful nurse, and retired to bed. I had slept soundly about an hour, when my servant entered my chamber, and told me, that the officers of the section requested me to go into the adjoining apartment. 'I understand them,' replied I: 'go, child, they shall not wait for me long.' I jumped out of bed, and dressed myself. My nurse came in, and was surprized, that I should take the trouble to put on any thing more than a wrapping gown.—'A proper dress is necessary to go out in,' observed L.—The poor woman looked in my face, and the tears gushed into her eyes. I went into the next room.

'We come, Citizenness, to put you under arrest, and to affix seals on your property.'—'Where is your authority?'—'Here:' said a man, taking out of his pocket a *mandate* from the revolutionary committee*, to convey me to the Abbey, without specifying any motive for the arrest. 'I may tell you, with Roland, that I know nothing of this committee, that I will not obey its orders, and that you shall not take me hence unless by violence.'—'Here is another order,' said eagerly, with an air of consequence, a little hard featured man; and he read me one from the commune, which directed, also, without alledging any charge, the arrest of both Roland and his wife. Whilst it was reading, I debated with myself, whether I should carry my resistance to the utmost, or quietly resign myself into their hands. I might plead the law, which prohibited nocturnal arrests; and if the law, which authorises magistrates to seize suspected persons were urged, I might retort the illegality of the municipality itself,

* The authorefs means the committee of insurrection of the commune of the 31st of May.

itself, cashiered and created anew by an arbitrary power. But then this power the citizens of Paris had in some measure sanctioned : the law was become nothing more than an empty name, employed for the purpose of trampling more securely on the most acknowledged rights : and force prevailed, to which if I compelled these brutes to have recourse, they would preserve no bounds in its application. Resistance therefore was useless, and could serve only to expose me.

‘ How do you mean to proceed, gentlemen ? ’—‘ We have sent for the justice of peace of the section, and you see a detachment of his armed force. ’—The justice of peace arrived. They went into my salon, and fixed seals to every thing, to the windows, to the drawers for linen. One man would have had them put on a piano-forte, but he was told it was an instrument of music : he then drew out a foot rule, and took its dimensions, as if he designed it for some particular place. I asked leave to take out my daughter’s wardrobe ! and I made up a small packet of night-clothes for myself. In the mean time fifty or a hundred persons were passing backwards and forwards continually, filled two rooms, crowded every place, and might easily conceal malicious persons disposed either to remove or to put in any thing. The air became loaded with noisome exhalations, and I was obliged to retire to the window of the anti-chamber to fetch breath. The officer durst not command this crowd to withdraw : occasionally he addressed to it a slight request, which produced only its renewal. Sitting down at my bureau, I wrote to a friend concerning my situation, or to recommend him to my daughter. As I was folding it up, Mr Nicaud, the bearer of the order from the commune, said ; ‘ madam, you must read your letter, and tell us to whom it is addressed. ’—‘ I have no objection to read it, if that will satisfy you. ’—‘ It is of more consequence to say to whom you address it. ’—‘ That I certainly shall not do.’

do: the title of my friend is not of a nature, at present, to induce me to name to you those, on whom I bestow it:’ and I tore the letter to pieces. When I turned my back, they picked up the fragments, to put them under seal. I was tempted to laugh at their stupid eagerness, for the letter had no direction.

In fine, at seven in the morning I left my daughter and my people, after having recommended to them calmness and patience. By their tears I felt myself more honoured, than it was in the power of oppression to render me dejected.—‘ You have people there, who love you:’ said one of the commissioners.—‘ I have never had any about me, who did not:’ replied I; and I descended the stairs. From the bottom of them to the coach, which was on the opposite side of the street, two rows of armed men were drawn up, and a crowd of curious people had assembled around. I walked slowly and deliberately between them, attentively viewing the cowardly or mislead multitude. The armed force followed the coach in two files: whilst the wretched populace, deceived, and massacred in the persons of its true friends, stopped as I passed by, attracted by the sight, and some women cried out, ‘ *to the guillotine.*’—‘ Shall we draw up the blinds?’ said one of the commissioners to me very civilly.—‘ No, gentlemen, innocence, however oppressed, never puts on the guise of criminality: I fear not the eye of any one, and I would not conceal myself from any person’s view.’—‘ You have more courage than many men: you submit to justice calmly.’—‘ Justice! Were justice done, I should not now be in your hand: but should an iniquitous procedure send me to the scaffold, I would mount it with the same firmness and tranquillity, with which I now go to a prison. I sigh for my country: I regret my mistake in supposing it qualified for liberty and happiness: but life I appreciate at its due value; I have never feared aught but guilt; injustice and death I despise.’—The poor commissioners

missioners did not perfectly comprehend such language, and probably thought it very aristocratic.

We arrived at the Abbey, the theatre of those bloody scenes, the revival of which the Jacobins have for some time preached up with such fervour. The first objects that presented themselves to my view, were five or six field beds, occupied by as many men, in a gloomy chamber. As soon as I had passed the wicket, all seemed in motion; and my guides made me ascend a dirty narrow staircase. We came to the keeper, in a sort of little salon, which was tolerably clean, where he offered me a couch. 'Where is my chamber?' said I to his wife, a corpulent woman, with a good countenance.—'Madam, I did not expect you: I have no one ready: in the mean time you will remain here.'—The commissioners went into the adjoining room, directed an entry of their mandate to be made, and gave their verbal orders. These, I afterwards learnt, were very rigid, and often renewed afterwards, but they durst not give them in writing. The keeper knew his trade too well, literally to pursue, what he was under no obligation to follow. He is an honest man, active, obliging, and in the exercise of his office leaves nothing for justice or humanity to desire.—'What would you choose for breakfast?'—'A little capillaire.'

The commissioners withdrew, observing to me that Roland ought not to have absconded, if he had been innocent.—'When a man, who has rendered such important service to the cause of liberty, is exposed to suspicion; when a minister, whose conduct has been so open, and accounts so clear, is become an object of detestable calumny, and the bitterest persecution; it would be strange, if he did not withdraw himself from the last extremities of envy. Just as Aristides, severe as Cato, to his virtues he is indebted for his enemies. Their fury knows no bounds: let them satiate it on me: I defy its power, and to it I devote myself. It is

is incumbent on him, to save himself for the sake of his country, to which he may yet be capable of rendering important service.'—The gentlemen were a little confounded; made no answer but a bow; and departed.

Whilst I breakfasted, a bed-chamber was hastily put in order, into which I was introduced. 'You may remain here, madam, the whole day; and if I cannot get ready an apartment for you this evening, as I have a great many persons, a bed shall be made up in the salon,'—The keeper's wife, who said this to me, added some civil observations on the regret she felt, whenever a person of her own sex arrived, subjoining: 'for they have not all your serene countenance, madam.'—I thanked her with a smile; and she locked me in.

Thus, then, I am in prison; said I to myself. I sat down, and gave myself up to profound reflection. The moments that followed I would not exchange for those, which others would esteem the most happy of my life. Never will they be erased from my memory. They enabled me to feel, in a critical situation, with a stormy, precarious period in view, all the value of honesty and fortitude, in the sincerity of a good conscience, and the strength of a courageous mind. Hitherto, impelled by circumstances, my actions, in this crisis, had been the result of a lively sentiment, hurrying me away. How grateful to find its effects justified by reason! I recalled to my mind the past: I weighed the events of the future; and if, listening to a heart of sensibility, I found an affection too powerful, I discovered not one, that could suffuse my cheek with a blush, not one, but served as aliment to my courage, not one, but that courage could subdue. I devoted myself, if I may use the expression, voluntarily to my destiny, whatever it might be: I defied its rigour: and my mind settled itself in that disposition, where it seeks nothing more than to employ the present well, without anxiety about any thing farther. But this tranquillity with regard to what concerned

cerned only myself I extended not to the fate of my country, and of my friends: with inexpressible eagerness I listened to the cries of the street, and waited for the papers of the evening. However, I made inquiry concerning my new situation, and what portion of liberty was left me.—‘May I write? May I see any person? What will be my expences here?’ were my first questions. Lavacquerie, the keeper, acquainted me with the directions given him, and the liberty he could take with such orders. I wrote to my faithful nurse, to come and see me; but it was agreed, that she should impart to no one her having the permission.

ACCOUNT OF THE TURKISH HAREM AT ALEPPO,
AND OF THE CHARACTER, EMPLOYMENTS, AND
AMUSEMENTS OF THE TURKISH LADIES.

*From the First Volume of the enlarged Edition of Rus-
sel's Natural History of Aleppo.*

“HOWEVER desirous a traveller in Turkey may be to learn the character and domestic manners of the Turkish ladies, he must expect to meet with various obstacles in his researches. The regulations of the Harem oppose a strong barrier to curiosity; inveterate custom excludes females from mingling in assemblies of the other sex, and, even with their nearest male relations, they appear to be under restraint, from which perhaps they are never emancipated, except in familiar society among themselves.

“In conversation, the Turks seldom talk of their women, and a stranger has very few opportunities of introducing a subject which they seem studious to avoid. Some information indeed may be obtained from the Christian and Jewish women who occasionally have access to the Harem; but their accounts must

be received with caution, and due allowance made for religious prejudices, as well as for the Eastern propensity to fable.

“All travellers who have visited the Levant, have more or less experienced these and other obstacles to inquiry; and hence it is the less remarkable, that the relations concerning Mohammedan women, met with in some of the best books of travels, should often be found contradictory or defective, without impeachment either of the writer's diligence or veracity. Sensible, from experience, that neither a tolerable knowledge of the language, nor familiar intercourse with the natives, in the course of a long residence in the country, can wholly surmount difficulties, which others have encountered with fewer advantages, it may be proper to bespeak indulgence for incidental errors, in the following representation of Mohammedan manners: in which are introduced a few domestic circumstances, that professional privilege afforded opportunities of observing, in the interior of the Harem.

“A description of the quarter in the Turkish palaces appropriated to the women, has been given in the first chapter of the preceding book. It may be added here, that, close to the outer door, there is an aperture in the wall about two feet from the ground, two feet and a half in height, and nearly two feet in breadth; to which is fitted a narrow wooden frame, and the middle space filled up by a hollow wooden cylinder, placed vertically on pivots, so as to be easily turned round. This wheel, being divided by one or more horizontal partitions, and open on one side from top to bottom, serves to deliver dishes from the kitchen, or to receive small parcels, without opening the outer door, or the persons on either side being seen. The partitions are moveable, and may be taken out occasionally, for the reception of larger parcels. Females who have business at the Harem, summon the attendants within, by rapping gently on the wheel, but,

but, if not answered readily, they exercise the knock-
 or of the outer door with great violence. It may be
 remarked, that the doors of the great Harems, from
 morning to sunset, are seldom locked, on account of
 the constant succession of people coming and going:
 but the case is different in inferior Harems, and in or-
 dinary houses, where there is no separate quarter for
 the women; the master of the house, when he goes
 abroad, not only shuts the street door, but carries the
 key along with him.

"To the Harems of the great belongs an officer na-
 med Harem Kehiasy who superintends all affairs, with-
 out doors, relating to the Harem, and commonly has
 one or two boys under him, who have access to the
 apartments, and are employed by the ladies in carry-
 ing messages, or in other petty services. These boys
 generally are black slaves, but not eunuchs. Their
 master, sometimes, is an eunuch, but, except in the
 service of bathaws, the office is commonly bestowed
 on a trusty white slave, or on a servant of advanced age.

"None of the ordinary menial male servants ever
 approach the door of the Harem, unless the Harem
 Kehiasy, or one of his attendants is present; and all
 females who have business with the ladies, as well as
 physicians and other medical attendants, must apply
 to him for admittance. Even the grandee himself,
 when there are female visitants in his Harem, does not
 presume to enter, till he has been announced, in order
 to give those time to prepare for his reception, who,
 according to custom, ought not to appear before him
 unveiled; and on certain occasions, as when the Ha-
 rem entertains a large company, he, being apprized
 before hand, does not go near the Harem till the guests
 have left it.

"When the ladies visit one another in a forenoon,
 they do not immediately unveil on coming into the
 Harem, lest some of the men should happen to be still
 at home, and might see them as they pass; but, as

soon as they enter the apartment of the lady to whom the visit is intended, either one of the young ladies, or a slave, assists in taking off the veil, which, being carefully folded up, is laid aside. It is a sign that the visitant intends only a short stay, when instead of resigning the veil, she only uncovers her head, permitting the veil to hang carelessly down on the shoulders. This generally produces a friendly contest between the parties; one insisting upon taking the veil away, the other refusing to surrender it. A little contest takes place at the close of the visit. When entreaty cannot prevail on the visitant to stay longer, the veil is hidden, the slaves instructed before hand, pretend to search for it every where in vain, and when she urges the absolute necessity of her going, she is assured that the Aga, or master of the house, is not yet gone abroad, and is then jocosely dared to depart without it.

"In their manner of receiving one another, the ladies are less formal than the men; their complimentary speeches, though in a high strain, are more rapidly and familiarly expressed.

"The common salutation is performed by laying the right hand on the left breast, and gently inclining the head. They sometimes salute by kissing the cheek; and the young ladies kiss the hands of their senior relations. They entertain with coffee and tobacco, but the sherbet and perfume are only produced on particular occasions.

"The great men are attended in the Harem, by the female slaves, in the same manner as, in the outer apartments, by the pages. They remain standing in the humble attitude of attendance, their hands crossed before them on their cincture, and their eyes fixed on the ground. The other ladies as well as the daughters of the family, occasionally bring the pipe and coffee, but do not remain standing; they either are desired to sit down, or they retire. This however is to be understood of the grandees; for in ordinary life, both

both wives and daughters minister servilely to the men; the two sexes never sitting at table together.

"It is seldom that all the ladies of a Harem are, by the great man, seen assembled, unless they happen, in the summer, to be surprized sitting in the Divan, where they meet to enjoy the cool air. At his approach, they all rise up, but, if desired, resume their places, (some of the slaves excepted) and return to their work. However loquacious they may have been before he entered, a respectful silence ensues the moment he appears; a restraint which they feel the less, from their being accustomed to it almost from infancy. It is surprizing how suddenly the clamour of children is hushed on the approach of the father; but the women often lament their want of power, in his absence, of quieting the children either by threats or soothing.

"Though the presence of the great man may impose silence on the younger ladies, he always finds some of the elderly matrons, ready enough to entertain him, should he be disposed for conversation. In this manner he learns the domestic news of the town, which, though rarely a topic of discourse among the men, being in great request at the public baths, is circulated by the female pedlars, and the Bidoween women attached to the Harem. The former, who are chiefly Jewish or Christian women of a certain age, supply the ladies with gauzes, muslin, embroidery, and trinkets, and moreover have the art of collecting and embellishing all kinds of private history; the latter are not less talkative, nor more secret, but possess also a licensed privilege of speaking freely to the men, which they perfectly know how to exercise. Their licence is derived from being often retained as nurses, by which they gain a permanent establishment in the family; the foster sister remaining attached to the Harem and in time succeeding her mother. The grandees, in these indolent hours converse also on their domestic affairs, and amuse themselves with their child-

ren. When they wish to be more retired, they withdraw to another apartment, into which no person, except the lady to whom it belongs, presumes to enter uncalled.

“The Turks, in presence of their women, appear to affect a more haughty, reserved air, than usual, and in their manner of speaking to them, are less courteous, and more abrupt, than they are to one another, or even to men who are much their inferiors. As this was frequently observed in persons remarkable for an affable deportment to men, it may be considered rather as their usual manner, than ascribed to the accidental presence of an European; and is further confirmed by the ordinary behaviour of the boys, who talk to the women in an imperious manner, which they could only have learned from example. The men perhaps judge it politic to assume this demeanour, in a situation where dominion may be supposed to be maintained with more difficulty, than among their male dependants; and therefore venture only in hours of retirement, to avow that gentleness, which, as if derogatory from their dignity, they think prudent, in their general conduct, to conceal, from persons whose obedience they believe can alone be secured, by an air of stern authority.

“The ladies, especially those of rank, appear reserved in regard to their husbands, while they show an engaging, affectionate fondness for their brothers, though it is often returned with little more than frigid complaisance: as if their tender endearments were a tribute due to male superiority. There are times however when natural affection gets the better of this cold indifference of the young men. The sight of a sister in distress, or languishing in a fit of severe illness, often produces emotion, of which, judging from general appearances, they would seem to be unsusceptible. The affectation of apathy is a remarkable trait in the character of the Turks. They are led by it, under
misfortunes,

misfortunes, to assume an appearance of tranquillity, more than they possess in reality ; and, on other occasions, they strive to hide that sensibility which other nations think it honourable to indulge. Their exterior manners are universally marked by this affectation : their real feelings, influenced by the common springs of humanity, are more remote from the eye of observation.

“ Persons of distinction, who are in office, leave the Harem early in the morning, and, two hours after noon excepted, pass most of their time in the outer apartments. But others, who have little business, and the luxurious young men of all denominations, lounge many hours in their Harem. Some allowance, in this respect, is made to youth, for some weeks after marriage ; but an effeminate character, which is by no means respectable among the men, is far from being acceptable to the women. The presence of the men, at unusual hours in the day time, lays the whole Harem under restraint, and however some particular favourite may be gratified by the particular attention of her lord, the rest of the women are apt to lament the liberty they are deprived of, by his remaining too much at home.

“ The grandees, if slightly indisposed, continue to see company in the outer apartments ; but when the disorder becomes serious, they retreat into the Harem, to be nursed by their women : and in this situation, besides their medical attendants, and very near relations, no person whatever can have access, except on very urgent business. They make choice of the females they wish to have more immediately about their person, and one in particular is appointed to give an account to the physician, of what happens at the intervals of his visits, to receive his directions, and to see them duly obeyed.

“ Medical people, whether Europeans or natives, have access to the Harem, at all times when their attendance

tendance is requisite. The physician, after being announced, is obliged to wait at the door till the way be cleared; that is till his patient, when a female, her company, and attendants, and others who might happen to be in the courts through which he must pass, have either veiled, or retired out of sight. He is then conducted to the chamber of the sick lady by a slave, who continues, in a loud voice, to give warning of his approach, by exclaiming Dirb, Dirb, al Hakeem Gia-y. Way! Way! the doctor is coming: a precaution which does not always prevent the unveiled ladies, who have not been apprized, from accidentally crossing the court, in which case, it becomes the well-bred physician to turn his eyes another way.

“ Upon entering the chamber, he finds his patient covered with a loose veil, and, it being a vulgar notion that the malady may be discovered from the pulse, he is no sooner seated, than the naked wrist is presented for his examination. She then describes her complaints, and, if it be necessary to look at the tongue, the veil is for that purpose removed, while the assistants keep the rest of the face, and especially the crown of the head, carefully covered. The women do not hesitate to expose the neck, the bosom, or the stomach, when the case requires those parts to be inspected, but never without extreme reluctance consent to uncover the head. Ladies whom I had known very young, and who, from long acquaintance, were careless in concealing their faces from me, never appeared without a handkerchief or some other slight covering thrown over the head. So far as I could judge, from general practice, it seemed to be considered, in point of decorum, of more consequence to veil the head, than the face.

“ The physician is usually entertained with tobacco and coffee, which, being intended as a mark of respect, cannot in civility be declined, though the compliance leads to an intemperate use of both. After he
has

has examined, and given directions concerning his patient, he requests leave to retire, but is seldom allowed to escape without hearing the incurable complaints of as many valetudinary visitants, as happen to be present, who either sit ready veiled, or talk from behind a curtain occasionally suspended in the chamber. These ladies always consider themselves entitled to verbal advice, or at least to an opinion of such remedies, as have been recommended by others; and a principal part of the medical art, among the native practitioners, consists in being able to acquit themselves dexterously in such incidental consultations.

“In families which the European physician has been accustomed to attend, and when his patient is on the recovery, he is sometimes induced to protract the visit, and to gratify the curiosity of the ladies, who ask numberless questions concerning his country. They are particularly inquisitive about the Frank women, their dress, employments, marriages, treatment of children, and amusements. In return they are ingenuously communicative, and display talents, which, being little indebted to artificial cultivation, appear, as it were, to expand naturally, under a clear sky, and the influence of a delicious climate. Their questions, are generally pertinent, and the remarks they occasionally make on manners differing so widely from their own, are often sprightly and judicious.

“When the visit is at length concluded, notice being given to clear the way, the physician sets out, preceded as before by the slave. But it rarely happens that he is not more than once stopped, to give advice to some of the domestics, who wait his return; for however slightly they may be indisposed, the temptation of telling their complaints to a doctor is irresistible. These damsels seldom have any other veil, than a handkerchief thrown over the head, one corner of which is held in the mouth; but, in order to avoid even that trouble, they frequently place themselves
behind

behind a door, or window shutter, half open, in which situation, thrusting out one arm, they insist on having the pulse examined. It sometimes happens, in the great Harems, that another obstacle must be encountered before regaining the gate. This arises from some of the younger ladies, or slaves, who are at work in the court, refusing peremptorily either to veil, or retire; which is done merely in sport, to vex the conductress, who is obliged of course to make a halt. In vain, she bawls *Dirb*; and makes use by turns of entreaty, threat, and reproach; till, finding all in vain, she gives fair warning, and has recourse to a never failing stratagem. She marches on, and bids the doctor follow.—A complete route ensues; the damsels scamper different ways, catch hold of whatever offers first by way of veil, or attempt to conceal themselves behind one another. It is only when none of the men are in the Harem, that this scene of romping can take place. When the physician is conducted by the Aga himself, every thing passes in orderly silence, and in the chamber of the sick, none besides the elderly or married relations offer to join in the conversation: but it is seldom that the Aga himself takes the trouble, after the few first visits, except the doctor be a stranger to the family.

“Women of distinction pass much of their time at home. They have a bath for ordinary occasions, within the Harem; the purchase of household necessities does not lie within their province; and mercery, drapery, and trinkets, are either sent from the shops to be chosen, or are brought in by the female pedlars formerly mentioned. They are not however idle within doors; the superintendence of domestic affairs, the care of their children, with their needle and embroidery, furnish ample employment.

“They are taught, when young, to read, and sometimes to write, the Arabic, but are very apt when taken from school to neglect both; so that reading
ought

ought not to be reckoned a common female amusement; and is never a study. I have known however some exceptions to this. A daughter of the late grand Vizir, Ragab Bashaw, had made (as he assured me) a surprising progress in Arabic literature, and he showed me a manuscript very beautifully written with her own hand. Devotion does not appear to take up much of their time; they never go to Mosque; and, except the elderly ladies, and those who have been at Mecca, they are not so punctual in their prayers at home, as the men.

“This is asserted only as it appeared to me. On the public days, the women may often be seen praying in the gardens, but it is only a small number out of a crowd. In the Harem, there is not the same opportunity of seeing them at prayers, as there is in respect to the men. My opinion was formed from being so seldom obliged, on visiting at noon, or sun-set, to wait till prayers were over; and on going into the Harem immediately before the times of prayer, from finding so few prepared by ablution; for when they have once performed the Wodou, they cannot permit a Christian to touch their pulse, without being obliged to wash over again. Indeed allowance should be made for a circumstance peculiar to the sex, which disqualifies them periodically from acts of devotion. Sunset seemed to be the time when the women chiefly prayed.

“It does not seem necessary to enter upon the argument concerning the exclusion of the Mohammedan women from paradise, with other innumerable errors and misrepresentations relating to them, which are to be found in the works of travellers, in other respects, of good credit.

“Their usual games are Mankala, Tabuduk, draughts, and sometimes chess; but, as before remarked of the men, they play merely for amusement. In the winter evenings, while the men are engaged in the
outer

outer apartment, the ladies often pass the time in attending to Arabian tales, which are recited, but more commonly read, by a person who has a clear distinct voice, and occasionally sings the stanzas interwoven with the story.—It has been already mentioned, that the Arabian Nights Entertainments known in England, were hardly to be found at Aleppo. A manuscript containing two hundred and eight nights, was the only one I met with, and, as a particular favour, procured liberty to have a copy taken from it. This copy was circulated successively to more than a score of Harems, and I was assured by some of the Ullama, whom the women had sometimes induced to be one of the audience, that till then they were ignorant that such a book existed.

“The toilet consists of a Divan cushion reversed, upon which a small mirror is placed. They do not employ much time at it; for the attire of the head may be taken off, and preserved entire, and the braiding of the hair, which is rather a tedious operation, is always performed in the Hummam. They dress neatly for the day, early in the morning, except on days when they go abroad in ceremony, or to the public bath, and then the alteration made in dress does not require much time.

“They are fond of flowers and odoriferous plants, which are sometimes cultivated under their own care, but for the most part purchased of those who raise them for sale. They preserve them in china or glass flower pots, arranged on wooden pyramids placed in the middle of the Divan; and form them, when required into elegant nosegays. When the ladies send a congratulatory message, or a ceremonious invitation, it is usually accompanied with a nosegay, wrapt up in an embroidered handkerchief. The message is verbal, and often delivered in the first person. “Thus, says my mistress, I will have no excuse—and do not tell me did you not promise me, &c.” This however is not the

the constant practice, but it is always delivered precisely in the words in which it is given. The person receiving the message takes out the flower with her own hand, and, carefully folding up the handkerchief, returns it by the messenger. They preserve deciduous flowers in the summer, by wrapping them in a muslin handkerchief sprinkled with water, which is laid in a metal basin, and placed in a cool cellar. The flowers of the orange, the Arabian jasmine, and the musk rose, are in this manner kept fresh for many hours.

"The young ladies amuse themselves by tying their nosegays with silk threads of certain colours, which, in the same manner as the assortment of particular flowers, are supposed to convey some emblematical allusion. But these are by the women so generally understood, that the artifice seems to be unfit for the purpose of secret correspondence; and a proof that the colours are for the most part regarded as indifferent, is the practice of the men, who, receiving nosegays from their ladies, either of their own making, or such as have been sent to them from other Harems, give them away, or interchange them with their visitors. It may be remarked, however, that, for the most part, the men interchange single flowers, or two or three stalks united; and that the ladies sometimes make an alteration in the binding of a nosegay, before presenting it, as if the rejected threads were improper.

"Lady Mary Wortley Montague, in her 40th Letter, has given a specimen of this mode of gallantry. "There is no colour, no weed, no flower, no fruit, herb, pebble, or feather, that has not a verse belonging to it; and you may quarrel, reproach, or send letters of passion, friendship, or civility, or even of news, without ever inking your fingers."

"The ladies at Aleppo are not such proficient, as her ladyship describes those at Constantinople; but the verses and allusions are much the same, express only in the Arabic instead of the Turkish language. The

colour

colour of the silk thread denotes fear, doubt, jealousy, impatience or despair.

“ Amid domestic occupations, serious or amusing, the ladies find themselves fully employed, and seldom complain of time hanging heavy. But various occasions call them abroad. They visit near relations several times in the year, as also when in child-bed, or in sickness; they assist at nuptial and funeral ceremonies; and, at established hours, go to consult their physician at his house, when the case does not require his attendance at the Harem. Thus, women above a certain rank, are, in proportion to the extent of their connections, more or less engaged, while those of the lower class are often obliged to go out to market, and constantly to the bagnio: the last indeed brings all the women abroad; for even those who have baths at home, are in cases of ceremonial invitation, obliged to repair to the public bath.

“ Mondays and Thursdays are the women’s licensed days for visiting the tombs, and, with their children and slaves, for taking the air in the fields or gardens. The slaves carry carpets, pipes, coffee equipage, and provisions: the garden supply lettuces, cucumbers, or such fruits as are in season. Some take possession of the garden summer-houses, others place themselves under the shade of trees, and all pass the day in high festivity. In the spring season, the gardens in the vicinity of the town, are crowded with women, and, towards evening, the several avenues of the town are filled with them, returning home. Some parties of the better class are preceded by a band of singing women, the ladies themselves walking behind with a slow and stately step; but the lower people are less formal, they advance in groups, singing as they walk along, and with the tympanum and the zilareet make the air resound on all hands. Ladies of distinction, on these occasions, dress in the plainest manner, and wear the ordinary striped veil, instead of the white

Furragi

vehicle for the ladies, but, in long journies it is carried by two camels instead of mules, especially on the pilgrimage to Mecca. There are always a certain number of Tahtruan's in the suite of a Bashaw.

"There is another vehicle for women and children of ordinary rank, two of which are suspended on the opposite sides of a camel, so as to be always in equilibrium. They are wooden cradles half covered with thin hoops of wood, over which an awning of wood is occasionally spread. They are furnished with a mattress and cushions, upon which a person can sit easily enough in the eastern fashion, but cannot stretch out at full length. They are called Muhaffi.

"Besides the two public days in the week, several others are solemnized by the women, in commemoration of certain Sheihs, or holy men, whose tombs they annually visit, from devotion; the convent of Sheih Abu Bekre is visited by vast crowds of women, two or three times in the year.

"It is a cruel disappointment when the women, by an ordinance of the governor or the cady, are prohibited from going abroad on their ordinary privileged days, which is the case when troops are to march near the city, or at other times of expected tumult. A bashaw rarely acts capriciously in this point, but the ordinance is always regarded as tyrannical, and, though punctually obeyed, occasions great murmuring.

"From what has been said, it would appear that the Turkish ladies are not in fact so rigorously confined as is generally imagined: it may be added, that habit, and the idea of decorum annexed to their restraints, render them less irksome. Their ignorance of the female privileges enjoyed in many parts of Europe, precludes any mortifying comparison, and, when told of those privileges, they do not appear very desirous of a liberty which, in many instances, they regard as inconsistent with their notion of female honour and delicacy. When it was said, in the former edition, "that
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the Turks of Aleppo being very jealous, keep their wives as much at home as they can, so that it is but seldom they are allowed to visit each other," it was to be understood comparatively with the liberty enjoyed by the European ladies. But the custom of keeping the women close shut up, is of high antiquity in the east, and was by the Turks rather adopted, than introduced into Syria.

"The barbarous nations, (says Plutarch) and amongst them the Persians especially, are naturally jealous, clownish, and morose, toward* their women; so that not only their wives, but also their female slaves and concubines, are kept with such strictness, and so constantly confined at home, that they are never seen by any but their own family; and when they take a journey they are put into a carriage shut close on all sides. In such a travelling carriage they put Themistocles, and told those whom they met or discoursed with upon the road, that they were carrying a young Grecian lady out of Ionia to a nobleman at court."

"This circumstance is dated in the first year of Artaxerxes, that is about 462 years before the birth of our Saviour. It may further be remarked that it was a capital offence in Persia to cross the way when a carriage containing women was passing. But the Greeks themselves had their wards for the reception of the women, which seem to have been much the same with the women's quarter in the Syrian seraglios. The women lived immured there under great restraint; they were sometimes attended by eunuchs; and never went abroad without a veil, or without some old female attendants. The Roman manners in this respect were very different; but it is not probable that their conquests in Syria produced much change in the æconomy of the Greek Harem.

"Women of condition in Syria always walk abroad attended by a numerous suite; no modest woman is

ever seen in the street without a servant or companion, unless perhaps elderly women of an inferior class. Of the attendants on the great, one is generally a Bidoween woman belonging to the Harem, who is easily distinguished, notwithstanding her veil. Indeed the veil worn in ordinary by the ladies themselves, is not sufficient to hide them from their acquaintance, and when they wear the black crape over the face, which conceals them more effectually, the slaves in their train, who are often employed to carry messages, or to go to the bazars, being known to the shop-keepers, discover the Harem to which they belong.

“These circumstances, together with the want of proper places of rendezvous, may be considered as material obstacles to criminal intrigue; which various circumstances render so liable to detection. Besides, as intrigues are rarely heard of, it may reasonably be concluded they do not often happen. I hardly remember a public instance of adultery, at Aleppo, in the course of twenty years; and, in the private walks of scandal, those I heard of were among the lower class, and did not in number exceed a dozen. As to the illicit admission of strangers into the great Harems, considering the number that must be trusted with the secret, it would appear to be impossible. Nor does Aleppo, in this respect, probably differ much from other Turkish cities: though there may perhaps, in the capital, be third places more commodious for assignation, than are to be found in the provinces. In respect to the Franks, the undertaking is attended not only with such risk to the individual, but may, in its consequences, so seriously involve the whole settlement, that it is either never attempted, or is concealed with a secrecy unexampled in other matters. I have reason to believe that European travellers have sometimes had a Greek courtesan imposed on them for a sultana, and, after being heartily frightened, have been induced to pay smartly,

smartly, in order to preserve a secret, which, the day after, was known to half the sister-hood in town.

“ But it would be rather harsh to ascribe the chastity of the women solely to these exterior restraints. Innate modesty, cherished from its first dawns with maternal care, and, in riper years, sheltered from the contagion of insidious gallantry, ought in candour to be allowed some share in the protection of the sex from irregularities, to which the climate, as well as the natural constitution may be reckoned favourable: and skill in the arts of seduction, or a character for illicit amours, being neither deemed requisite nor venial, in the composition of a Turkish fine gentleman, tuition, finding fewer obstacles to encounter, may perhaps on that account be less liable, than in some other countries, to fail of success.

“ The wives and concubines, of relations who live familiarly together, are restrained by the ties of consanguinity, from a criminal intercourse, which would be deemed scandalous, if not incestuous; and clandestine intrigues between the boys and maid servants, to whatever cause it may be owing, are in fact less frequent than might be expected. It is indeed hardly possible that an amour should remain long concealed in the Harem; and the mothers usually take care to hasten the marriage of their sons, before the passions become too fierce for the control of parental authority.

“ I have been told by Turkish ladies, that a principal view in their preference of slaves to free women, as menial servants, was to prevent domestic intrigues. When a free girl is seduced, her parents make use of the accident to lay the family under contribution, by threatening a public prosecution, which is not only productive of expense, but, what to the women is more vexatious, exposes the honour of the Harem. The girls sometimes slyly give encouragement, not only from the hope of some pecuniary indemnification,
but

but also perhaps, of obtaining a husband. This last is no uncommon mode of compounding the matter, it not being difficult to find some one willing, for money, to take the girl, but who is at the same time careful to retain, as an additional dowry, the power of harassing the family, as often as he becomes necessitous. Families are sometimes plagued with these vexations, at the distance of several years, and that even where the complaint is groundless. I have had occasion accidentally to hear such causes tried at the Mahkamy, but believe they are not common; for the mistress of the Harem generally chooses to prevent public scandal by submitting to private extortion. The slaves on the contrary, having no kindred to support them, can derive few similar advantages from criminal intrigue.

“ The youth of distinction, without the precincts of the Harem, have little or no opportunity of indulging in illicit pleasures, for they are not only never permitted to go abroad unattended, but there are no private places of resort where the sexes can meet. The common prostitutes (who are chiefly attached to the soldiery) are of the lowest order, and lodge in such obscure places of the town, that no person of character can have any decent pretence to approach them. These prostitutes are licensed by the Bashaw's Tufinkgi Bashee, whom they pay for his protection. Some are natives of Aleppo, but many come from other places. They parade in the streets, and the outskirts of the town, dressed in a flaunting manner, their veil flying loosely from the face, their cheeks painted, bunches of flowers stuck gaudily on the temples, and their bosom exposed; their gait is masculine, and full of affectation, and they are in the highest degree impudent and profligate. There are perhaps a few courtezans of a somewhat higher class, who entertain visitors in more suitable lodgings; but the risk which people of property run, when detected, of being forced to submit to arbitrary

trary extortion, or to be exposed to public ridicule, confines this mode of gallantry to the inferior class of Osmanli, and the Janizaries.

“The ladies of the Harem are either free born natives of Turkey, or slaves originally christian, who have been brought from Georgia: the number of the latter at Aleppo is comparatively small.

“The Turkish girls of condition are carefully educated; and those of every denomination are taught silence, and a modest reserved demeanour, in the presence of men. From infancy, they are seldom carried abroad without a gauze handkerchief thrown over the head, and from the age of six or seven, they wear the veil. When about seven years old, they are sent to school to learn to sew and embroider: but their work in embroidery is greatly inferior to that of the Constantinople ladies. The handkerchiefs of the men are embroidered with silk of various colours, as well as with gold and silver; and are common presents made by the women, in the same manner as worked watch cases, purses, and tobacco bags. Some of the girls, as remarked before, are taught to read and write the Arabic; but all are instructed in their prayers, their duty to parents, and in the exterior forms of behaviour. Persons of condition seldom send their children to the public school, after the ninth year, either engaging professed teachers to come into the Harem, or, making an interchange, become tutoresses to each other's children. By this last mode the petulance, so often the consequence of indulgence at home, is in some measure corrected; for the voluntary tutoress maintains strict authority, keeps the young pupil under her eye, makes her sit in the apartment where she herself and her slaves are at work, and, when she goes from home, she leaves the girl under the care of some one who is to make a report of her conduct. A laudable discretion in conversation is preserved in the presence of these girls, and an indirect lesson is occasionally

ally given by reprimanding the slaves in their hearing: Indeed the whole of their education appears not to consist so much in a formal course of precepts, as in artfully supplying the pupil with examples in domestic life, from which she may draw rules for her own conduct: and which being as it were the result of her own reflection, acquire perhaps more lasting influence.

"The early separation of the boys and girls, (for they are sent to different reading schools,) soon leads each sex to the pursuit of its peculiar amusements, preparing them gradually for the disjoined state of their future lives. The boys grow impatient of confinement in the Harem, and love to pass their time among the pages and the horses; they assume a grave, sedate air, and imitate the manners of those whom they observe to be respected among the men. The girl forms different ideas of her own dignity, grows attentive to the punctilios of her sex, is proudly fond of her veil, and strives to imitate the gait, the tone of voice, and the peculiar phrases of those ladies whom she has heard chiefly commended.

"The boys (according to M. D'Arvieux) are not permitted to enter the apartments of the women, after their seventh year: such is the jealousy of the men." Others have said the same: but if the circumstance was true at the time he wrote, it is not at present the case at Aleppo. The boys have free access to the Harem till sixteen or seventeen. They are not indeed carried to the bagnio with the women later than six years old.

"The women in their persons are rather engaging than handsome. It was remarked before, that they were pretty in infancy, but changed for the worse as they grew up: yet they retain for ever the fine piercing eye, and many to the last possess their exquisite features, though not their complexion. They do not wear stays, and are at little pains to preserve their shape. In general they are low in stature, and such as
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are tall, for the most part stoop. The women of condition affect a stately gait, but walk inelegantly, and the carriage of their body is devoid of that ease, and air, to which an European eye has been accustomed. The dress in which they appear abroad, is not calculated to set off the person; the veil shows their shape to disadvantage, the legs are awkwardly concealed by the boots, and even without them, their movement is not so elegantly easy as that of their arms; which may be the reason that they appear to most advantage when sitting on the Divan.

“The transient manner in which the Turkish women can only be seen by a stranger, renders it difficult, if not impossible, to speak decidedly of their beauty, in comparison with that of the women of other countries, who are seen with more familiarity. Their dress and veil, which are so disadvantageous to their shape, may perhaps (the latter particularly) be of advantage to their looks. I have had occasion to see great numbers, and thought them in general handsomer than the Christian and Jewish ladies; but I was sometimes inclined to doubt whether that opinion might not in some degree be ascribed to seeing them partially, or when revealed in such a manner, as to give relief to their beauty; it is certain that many whose faces I had at first thought exquisitely fine, from under a loose veil, lost considerably when more exposed.

“When the female slaves are purchased very young, which seldom happens, they are brought up much in the same manner with the daughters of the family; but if they have reached the age of fifteen, or more, being then considered as too far advanced for regular schooling, they owe their future improvement to accidental opportunities, and for that reason are seldom so accomplished as the Turkish girls of condition. This, however, is only to be understood of such as are brought for sale to Aleppo; for many of those who are carried young to Constantinople, are carefully kept by the merchant,

merchant, till they have acquired such improvements, as serve to enhance their price. They are instructed in music, dancing, dress, and all the arts of allure-ment; and they generally possess the advantage of personal charms. These high bred ladies very seldom appear at Aleppo; the extravagance of their price is one objection, and they are considered also as capable, by their example, of corrupting the less refined manners of the Syrian Harem. I knew an instance of a bashaw, who procured two of those ladies, at a very considerable expence, from Constantinople; but he dismissed them in less than three months; declaring they had in that time turned the heads of half the women in the Harem, and, besides ruining him in fine clothes, he believed they would, in two months more, have transformed his daughters into dancing girls.

“The slaves of a certain age are either purchased merely as menial domestics, or as future partners of the bed. Of the former, there are many who turn out most excellent and faithful servants; they have no kindred nor connections to allure them abroad, and they become sincerely attached to the family, into which accident has introduced them. Though the menial slaves are in the power of their master, they are protected in a great measure from violation, by established custom, as well as by other considerations. Should they happen to prove pregnant, they do not cease to be slaves, but their master has no longer the right of selling them, and the offspring enjoy nearly the same rights of inheritance with legitimate children. If the slave be the property of one of the ladies of the Harem, whether purchased, or received as a present, her person is regarded, in decency, as almost equally sacred with that of a daughter of the family, and an injury done her, would be deemed a high affront to her mistress.

“The slaves destined for the bed, are recommended more by their beauty and personal attractions, than
their

their domestic qualifications; and their future fortune depends on various accidents. When brought into the Harem of a young voluptuary, the new favourite, after triumphing in a pleasing dream of envied pre-eminence, soon finds herself reduced to the same state with the neglected females she had supplanted; and, if she brings no child, must sometimes submit to the humiliating employment of attendance on happier rivals; or try her fortune, at the option of her master, in some other family. When the young slave falls at first to the lot of a batchelor, or of a man of a suitable age, who, having never had children, obtains his wife's consent to take a concubine, she at once is well received, and not unfrequently forms a happy establishment for life. But it too often is the fate of those orphan beauties, to fall the helpless victims of wealthy age, caprice, and impotency! They are doomed to bloom unseen, and to waste their prime in tasteless luxury. The death of their lord releases them at length from bondage; but their share of his fortune being inadequate to the support of their accustomed state, they find themselves reduced to the necessity of passing the remainder of their days in parsimonious solitude; or, if they seek a connection by marriage in some inferior rank, they become entangled in duties, for which their former idle way of life has but ill qualified them.

"The girls belonging to the women, who are purchased young, are brought up with care, and are sometimes honourably established in the Harem; or, with consent of their mistress, perhaps are married to some domestic without doors: they receive their freedom, and continue useful adherents to the family. But a large proportion of these slaves remain for ever single; they follow the fortunes of their mistress, and though generally emancipated at her death, they retain a grateful attachment to her children.

"When a person dies, his slaves (such as have borne children excepted) become the property of his heirs:

there are, however, certain degrees of consanguinity; which exclude them from the bed of the successor. The grandees sometimes bestow slaves, who have had no child, on their favourite dependants, as a mark of regard; but it is usually with consent of the woman, who, together with her freedom, receives a marriage portion. On the other hand, they are sometimes presented with a virgin slave, by the rich merchants, or others who have occasion to cultivate court interest; and when such ladies luckily become favourites, they often give proof of their gratitude, in the services rendered to the family of their first patron.

“The great men also make presents of slaves to each other, but the custom is less common, and considered as more dangerous. It has been made subservient to infamous policy, by carrying murder into the most sacred recesses of domestic security; and the loveliest forms of female beauty have sometimes, though perhaps often unjustly, been suspected of being made the cruel instruments of the blackest treachery.

“A bashaw whom I had occasion to know at Aleppo, in the year 1762, and who, within a few months after, died bashaw of Cairo, was strongly suspected of having been poisoned by a beautiful slave, of whom he was extremely fond, and who had been presented to him, after he had left Constantinople, by the grand vizar. I had an opportunity afterwards of conversing with several of his domestic officers, and, from circumstances, was inclined to believe, (what they did not) that his death, though sudden, was merely accidental. He had consulted me, before going to Cairo, on account of vertigoes to which he had been subject for several years. He was a young man of a plethoric habit, a short neck, intemperate in his pleasures, and, having lost his mother in an apoplexy, was strongly apprehensive of dying of that distemper. A fit unfortunately seized him when no other person but the slave was present.

“Among

“Among people of rank, as well as the rich merchants, there are many who marry a slave in preference to a free woman; choosing to forego the pecuniary, and indeed all the advantages of alliance, rather than submit to the conditions on which such females are obtained. A woman of birth, conscious of family consequence, is apt to be haughty and petulant, and her relations sometimes make it one of the marriage articles, that the husband shall not take another to his bed. At any rate, the apprehension of family resentment lays him under a restraint, not experienced with a partner, whose interest it is anxiously to endeavour to conciliate the affections of the man on whom is her sole dependence, and who possesses the power of arbitrarily deserting her. This spirit of liberty, or rather of licentiousness, is said to be more general at present than it was formerly, while the gratification of it is become more difficult, from the decrease in the number of Georgian slaves brought into the provinces. At the same time it may be remarked, that the restriction to one woman, being only matter of private contract, not a religious precept, the article is often infringed, and, in consequence, is productive of much domestic uneasiness.

“It may be suspected, where courtship can have no place till after possession, or at least till after the object is within the power of the lover, that there can be little room for delicacy of sentiment; and that, while the man, led only by the coarser passion, neglects the arts of refined address, the woman will regard with careless indifference, the infidelities which custom has sanctified, and which she can neither prevent nor resent. The suspicion may perhaps, in general, be just, with respect to the theory of love in Turkey. The men pretend to despise gallantry as frivolous, nor is the imagination of either sex prevented by the fictions of romance. Nevertheless, in the course of a more intimate acquaintance with individuals, I was justified in

the belief, that nature herself dictates a nameless refinement of passion, which often renders them restless or discontented, and shows that something more is wanting to the perfection of luxury, than the mere power over passive beauty.

“ On the other hand, though desertion on the man’s part does not reflect much dishonour on the woman, yet a certain sensibility makes her often feel severely the unprovoked injury; and she laments, in secret, a neglect, which though fashion may vindicate, it cannot suppress the feelings of the human heart. The unusual attention bestowed on dress, and the improved polish in manners, observable soon after marriage, in many of the Turkish youths, is a tacit indication of a greater respect to the sex, than the professed principle of the men would seem to admit; while the faded cheek of forsaken beauty, with a long train of chronic ailments, consequent to indulged melancholy, are proofs, too frequently met with, of that female sensibility, which slowly consumes the spirits, and exposes the bloom of youth to the canker of hidden grief.

“ The instances now alluded to, though not uncommon, are to be considered as exceptions to the regular influence of custom, which renders the sex patiently resigned to the inconstancy of their husbands; or subjects them only to transient fits of resentment. The slaves who have intruded on others, have little pretence to murmur at the man’s divided affection, and appear content in sharing it in common with the rest. The wives find it their interest to be silent, and when not deprived of their legal claim on the husband, trust rather to acquiescence than remonstrance. It is fortunate for both when they happen to have children to engage the mother’s attention; she to them transfers her love and anxious tenderness, and, for their sakes, continues officiously to cultivate the good will of the father, though without hope of his returning passion.

“ For





M. Archibald sculp: Edr.

PRINCESS OF WALES.

"For some time after marriage, the young man of family is confined solely to his wife; it is not till further advanced in life, or till he comes into possession of the father's estate, that he avails himself of the right of polygamy. A prevailing notion that pleasure can only be found in variety, naturally prevents his bestowing much pains on the cultivation of a passion which is likely to attach him to a single object. It, however, sometimes happens, that he is entangled unawares; and it is far from uncommon, in the great Harems, to find the man's affections engrossed by one lady, while the visits he is under an obligation of paying to the others, serve only to convince him of the difference between mere desire and fond affection. I have been told, by the men themselves, instances of what they called extravagant passion, which they had experienced at different times of life, and which they ingenuously confessed, had rendered them so foolishly submissive to the woman, that they were heartily ashamed of their weakness. It is curious also to observe, in a situation where pecuniary or other motives can have no influence, how little beauty seems to be regarded, in determining the man's choice. It is often remarked that ladies who have pretensions but to few personal charms, are preferred to the most graceful and engaging forms; and the examples are numerous of lasting connections, formed with the plainest women in the Harem."

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

(With her Portrait, elegantly engraved.)

THE consort of the Prince of Wales is of a middling stature, and elegant in her person: her appearance at court is majestic; but there is a sweetness and

affability in her manners, which rivets the admiration of all who behold her—her eyes are intelligent—her countenance animated, and her teeth white and regular—her hair a light auburn, of which she has an amazing quantity behind, which she wears always in a simple but elegant style—in undress, she generally wears it in a plain broad chignon, but when dressed, she has it rather low on the back and spreading a good deal over her shoulders; the upper part of the hind hair is generally plaited into two broad plaits, brought round the front, and fastened at the crossings with diamond pins, making a natural bandeau—the points drawn out in curls between the plaits, the ends of which are curled and tied with a ribbon to the points of the hind hair, which is also curled, and disposed so as to form a bow of curls, by tying them across, which with a large plume of feathers, has a very fine effect—her royal highness wears also generally a very large bouquet in her bosom—her taste in every other part of dress is equally elegant; there can therefore be no doubt she will become the standard of fashionable dress and elegance.

ODE TO WAR.

From Whitehouse's Odes Moral and Descriptive.

I.

DREAD offspring of Tartarian birth,
 Whose nodding crest is stain'd with gore,
 Whom to some giant son of earth,
 Strife, in strong pangs of child-bed bore;
 O War! fierce monster, homicide,
 Who marchest on with hideous stride,
 Shaking thy spear distilling blood,—
 Bellona thee, in angry mood,

Taught

Taught proud Ambition's spoils to win,
 Amidst the loud, conflicting din
 Of arms, where Discord's gorgon-featur'd form
 High shakes her flaming torch amidst the martial storm.

II.

Stern God! wolf-hearted and accursed,
 Fostered by pow'r, by rapine nursed,
 Oppression ever in thy train,
 For hapless man prepares her chain:
 A thousand vulture-forms beside
 Stalk on before thee; bloated Pride,
 Thick-eyed revenge, his soul on fire,
 And Slaughter breathing threat'nings dire,
 Tumult, and Rage, and Fury fell,
 And Cruelty, the imp of hell,
 Her heart of adamant! and arm'd her hand
 With iron hooks, and cords, and desolation's brand.

III.

There, where the battle loudest roars
 Where wide th' impurpled deluge pours,
 And ghastly death—his thousands slain—
 Whirls his swift chariot o'er the plain,
 Rapt in wild horror's frantic fit,
 'Midst the dire scene thou lov'st to sit,
 To catch some wretch's parting sigh,
 To mark the dimly-glazing eye,
 The face into contortions thrown,
 Convuls'd; the deep, deep-lengthening groan,
 The frequent sob, the agonizing smart,
 And nature's dread release, the pang that rends the heart.

IV.

Avaunt, from Albion's isle! nor there
 Thy arms and madd'ning car prepare,
 Nor bid thy crimson banners fly,
 Terrific, through the troubled sky;

But

But stay thee in thy wild career ;
 Lay by thy glitt'ring shield and spear,
 Thy polish'd casque, and nodding crest,
 And let thy sable steeds have rest :
 At length the work of slaughter close,
 And give to Europe's sons repose,
 Bid the hoarse clangors of the trumpet cease,
 And smoothe thy wrinkled front to meet the smiles of Peace.

THE HISTORY OF A VIRTUOSO.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

IT was observed, from my entrance into the world, that I had something uncommon in my disposition; and there appeared in me very early tokens of genius, superior to the bulk of mankind. I was always an enemy to trifles, and threw away my rattle at the time when other children but begin to shake it. I was particularly fond of my coral, but would never suffer my nurse to ring the bells. As I grew older, I was thoughtful and serious; and instead of amusing myself with puerile diversions, made collections of natural rarities; and never walked into the fields without bringing home stones of remarkable forms, or insects of some uncommon species. I never entered an old house from which I did not take away some painted glass, and often lamented that I was not one of that happy generation who demolished the convents and monasteries, and broke windows by law.

Being thus early possessed of a taste for solid knowledge, I passed my youth with very little disturbance from passions and appetites; and, having no pleasure in the company of boys and girls, who talked of plays, politics, fashions, or love, I carried on my inquiries with incessant diligence, and had amassed more stones, mosses,

moſſes, and ſhells, than are to be found in many celebrated collections, at an age in which the greateſt part of young men are ſtudyng under tutors, or endeavouring to recommend themſelves to notice by their dreſs, their air, and their levities.

When I was two and twenty years old, I became, by the death of my father, poſſeſſed of a ſmall eſtate in land, with a very large ſome of money in the public funds; and I muſt confeſs that I did not much lament him; for he was a man of mean parts, bent rather upon growing rich than wiſe; and once ſtietted at the expence of only ten ſhillings, which he happened to overhear me offering for the ſting of a hornet, though it was a cold moiſt ſummer, in which very few hornets had been ſeen. He often recommended to me the ſtudy of phyſic, “In which,” ſaid he “you may at once gratify your curioſity after natural hiſtory, and encrease your fortune by benefiting mankind.” I heard him with pity, and as there was no proſpect of elevating a mind formed to grovel, ſuffered him to pleaſe himſelf with hoping that I ſhould ſometime follow his advice. For you know that there are men with whom, when they have once ſettled a notion in their heads, it is to very little purpoſe to diſpute.

Being now left wholly to my own inclinations, I very ſoon enlarged the bounds of my curioſity, and contented myſelf no longer with ſuch rarities as required only judgment and induſtry, and when once found, might be had for nothing. I now turned my thoughts to exoticks and antiques, and became ſo well known for my generous patronage of ingenious men, that my levee was crowded with viſitants, ſome to ſee my muſeum, and others to encrease its treaſures, by ſelling me whatever they had brought from other countries.

I had always a contempt of that narrowneſs of conception, which contents itſelf with cultivating ſome ſingle corner of the field of ſcience; I took the whole region into my view, and wiſhed it of yet greater extent.

tent. But no man's power can be equal to his will. I was forced to proceed by slow degrees, and to purchase what chance or kindness happened to present. I did not, however, proceed without some design, or imitate the indiscretion of those who begin a thousand collections, and finish none. Having been always a lover of geography, I determined to collect the maps made in the rude and barbarous times, before any regular surveys, or just observations; and have, at a great expence, brought together a volume, in which, perhaps, not a single country is laid down according to its true situation, and from which, he that desires to know the errors of the ancient geographers, may find ample information.

I did not suffer myself, however, to neglect the products of my own country; but as Alfred received the tribute of the Welch in wolves heads, I allowed my tenants to pay their rents in butterflies, till I had exhausted the papilionaceous tribe. I then directed them to the pursuit of other animals, and obtained, by this easy method, most of the grubs and insects, which land, air, or water, can supply. I have three species of earth-worms not known to the naturalists, have discovered a new ephemera, and can shew four wasps that were taken torpid in their winter quarters. I have, from my own ground, the longest blade of grals upon record; and once accepted, as a half-year's rent for a field of wheat, an ear containing more grains than had been seen before upon a single stem.

One of my tenants so much neglected his own interest, as to supply me, in a whole summer, with only two horse-flies, and those of little more than the common size; and I was upon the brink of seizing for arrears, when his good fortune threw a white mole in his way, for which he was not only forgiven but rewarded.

These, however, were pretty acquisitions, and made at small expence; nor should I have ventured to rank myself among the virtuosi without better claims. I
have

have suffered nothing worthy the regard of a wise man to escape my notice. I have ransacked the old and the new world, and been equally attentive to past ages and the present. For the illustration of ancient history, I can shew a marble, of which the inscription, though it is not now legible, appears, from some broken remains of the letters, to have been Tuscan, and therefore, probably, engraved before the foundation of Rome. I have two pieces of porphyry found among the ruins of Ephesus, and three letters broken off by a learned traveller from the inscriptions at Persepolis; a piece of stone brought from the Areopagus of Athens; and a plate without figures or inscription, which was found at Corinth, and which I therefore believe to be that metal which the ancients valued before gold. I have also gathered out of the Granicus, a fragment of Trajan's bridge over the Danube, some of the mortar which cemented the water-course of Tarquin, a horse-shoe broke in the Flaminian way, and a turf with five daisies dug from the field of Pharsalia.

I will not raise the envy of unsuccessful collectors, by too pompous a display of my scientific wealth; but cannot forbear to observe, that there are few regions of the globe which are not honoured with some memorial in my cabinet. The Persian monarchs are said to have boasted the greatness of their empire, by being served at their tables with water from the Ganges and the Danube: I can shew one phial, of which the water was formerly an icicle on the crags of Caucasus, and another that contains what once was snow on the top of Teneriffe; in a third is a solution of the ice of Greenland; and, in another, water that once rolled in the Pacific Ocean. I flatter myself that I am writing to a man who will rejoice at the honour which my labours have procured to my country, and therefore I shall tell you that Britain can by my care boast of a snail that has crawled upon the wall of China, a humming bird which an American princess wore in her
car,

ear, the tooth of an elephant who carried the Queen of Siam, the skin of an ape that was kept in the palace of the Great Mogul, a ribband that adorned one of the maids of a Turkish Sultana, and a scimeter that belonged to a foldier of Abas the Great.

In collecting antiquities of every country, I have been careful to chuse only by intrinsic worth, without regard to party or opinions. I have therefore a lock of Cromwell's hair in a box turned out from a piece of the Royal Oak; and keep, in the same drawers, sand scraped from the coffin of King Richard, and a commission signed by Henry VII. I have equal veneration for the ruff of Elizabeth, and the shoe of Mary of Scotland; and should lose, with like regret, a tobacco-pipe of Raleigh, and a stirrup of King James. I have paid the same price for a glove of Louis, and a thimble of Queen Mary; for a fur cap of the Czar, and a boot of Charles of Sweden.

You may easily imagine that these accumulations were not made without some diminution of my fortune, for I was so well known to spare no cost, that at every sale some bid against me for hire, some for sport, and some for malice; and, if I asked the price of any thing, it was sufficient to double the demand. For curiosity, trafficking thus with avarice, the wealth of India had not been enough; and I, by little and little, transferred all my money from the funds to my closet: here I was inclined to stop, and live upon my estate in literary leisure, but the sale of the collection shook my resolution; I mortgaged my land, and purchased thirty medals, which I could never find before. I have at length bought till I can buy no longer, and the cruelty of my creditors has seized my repository; I am therefore condemned to disperse what the labour of an age will not re-assemble; I submit to that which cannot be opposed; and shall, in a short time, be under the dreadful necessity of declaring a sale.

AFFECTING

AFFECTING INCIDENTS IN THE REVOLUTIONARY
PRISONS OF FRANCE.

*From Letters on the Politics of France, by Miss Helen
Maria Williams.*

WHILE Miss Williams was confined in the prison of the Luxembourg in Paris, (in consequence of the decree ordering all the English to be arrested) she observed, that ‘among the crowd that filled the public room were fine gentlemen and fine ladies, who had held the highest rank at court, some flirting together, others making appointments for card parties or music in their own apartments in the evening, and others relating to us in pathetic language all they had suffered, and all they had lost by the revolution. It was impossible not to sympathize in the distresses of some, or avoid wondering at the folly of others, in whom the strong sense of danger could not overcome the feelings of vanity; and who, although the tremendous decree had just gone forth, making “terror the order of the day,” and knowing that the fatal pre-eminence of rank was the surest passport to the guillotine, could not resist using the proscribed nomenclature of “Madame la duchesse,” “Monsieur le comte,” &c. which seemed to issue from their lips like natural melodies to which the ear has long been accustomed, and which the voice involuntarily repeats. There were, however, among the captive nobility many persons who had too much good sense not to observe a different conduct, who had proved themselves real friends to liberty, had made important sacrifices in its cause, and who had been led to prison by revolutionary committees on pretences the most trivial, and sometimes from mistakes the most ludicrous. Such was the fate of the former count and countess of ———; who had distinguished themselves from the beginning of the revolution by the

ardour

ardour of their patriotism and the largeness of their civic donations. They had hitherto lived undisturbed in their splendid hotel, and there they might probably have continued to live a little longer, had not the countess, in an evil hour, sent down to her chateau a fine marble hearth, which by accident was broken on the way. The steward sent a letter, in which, among other things, he mentioned that the "foyer * must be repaired at Paris." The letter was intercepted and read by the revolutionary committee. They swore, they raged at the dark designs of aristocracy. "Here," said they, "is a daring plot indeed! a *foyer* of counter-revolution, and to be repaired at Paris! We must instantly seize the authors and the accomplices." In vain the countess related the story of the hearth, and asserted that no conspiracy lurked beneath the marble; both herself and her husband were conducted to the maison-d'arret of their section, from which we saw them arrive at the Luxembourg with about sixty other persons at the hour of midnight, after having been led through the streets in procession by the light of an immense number of flambeaux, and guarded by a whole battalion.

'AMID many an eloquent tale of chateaux levelled with the ground, and palaces where, to borrow an image of desolation from Ossian, "the fox might be seen looking out at the window," we sometimes heard the complaints of simple sorrow unallied to greatness; but, like the notes of the starling, "so true in time to nature were they chanted," that they seized irresistibly on the heart. Of this kind was a scene which passed sometimes between a poor English woman and her dog, which she had brought to keep her company in her captivity. She had been house-keeper in a French family, and, some months before she was imprisoned, had

* *Foyer* is the French name for hearth, and also for the central point of a system.

had sent her daughter, who was her only child, to her friends in England. The poor woman often exclaimed, while her face was bathed in tears, "Oh, Charlotte, Charlotte, I shall never see you again!" Whenever the dog heard the name of Charlotte, he began to howl in so melancholy a note, that it was impossible not to sympathize in his lamentation.

‘THERE was sometimes room for deep meditation on the strange caprice and vicissitudes of fortune. We found the ex-minister Amelot, a prisoner in the Luxembourg; he, who during his administration had distributed lettres de cachet with so much liberality. Tyranny had now changed its instruments, and he was become himself the victim of despotism with new insignia: the *blue ribband* had given place to the *red cap*, and “*de par le roi*,” was transformed into “*par mesure de surete generale*.” By his order La Tude, whose history is so well known, had been confined thirty years in the Bastille. He was now enjoying the sweets of liberty; and, before the prison-doors were shut against strangers, came frequently to visit some of his friends in the very room where the minister was imprisoned.

Amelot, in a comfortable apartment and surrounded by society, did not bear his confinement with the same firmness as La Tude had borne the solitude of his dungeon, cheered only by the plaintive sounds of his flute of reeds. He was in a short time bereft of his reason; and, among the wanderings of his imagination, used to address letters to all the kings of Europe and all the emigrant princes, inviting them to sumptuous repasts, to which he sometimes proposed admitting the national convention, to shew that he was above bearing malice.

AMONG the prisoners whom Miss Williams found in the Luxembourg, were two persons, in whose so-

ciety she and her friends had passed some of the most agreeable hours of their residence in France. These were Sillery and La Source, both members of the convention, and both on the point of appearing before that sanguinary tribunal whence, after the most shocking mockery of justice, they were inhumanly dragged to the scaffold. Sillery, on account of his infirmities, had with much difficulty obtained permission from the police for his servant to be admitted into the prison during the day, together with an old female friend, who, on the plea of his illness, had implored leave to attend him as his nurse, with that eloquence which belongs to affliction, and which sometimes even the most hardened hearts are unable to resist. While men assume over our sex so many claims to superiority, let them at least bestow on us the palm of constancy, and allow that in the fidelity of our attachments we have the right of pre-eminence. Those prisons from which men shrunk back with terror, and where they often left their friends abandoned lest they should be involved in their fate—women, in whom the force of sensibility overcame the fears of female weakness, demanded and sometimes obtained permission to visit, in defiance of all the dangers that surrounded their gloomy walls. Sillery's friend and his servant being allowed to go in and out of his apartment, the door was not kept constantly locked, although he and La Source were closely confined, and not permitted to have any communication with the other prisoners. The second night of our abode in the Luxembourg, when the prisoners had retired to their respective chambers, and the keeper had locked the outer door which enclosed our three apartments, La Source entered our room. Oh! how different was this interview from those meetings of social enjoyment that were embellished by the charms of his conversation, always distinguished by a flow of eloquence, and animated by that enthusiastic fervour

servour which peculiarly belongs to his character! La Source was a native of Languedoc, and united with very superior talents, that vivid warmth of imagination for which the southern provinces of France have been renowned since the period when, awakened by the genial influence of those luxuriant regions, the song of the Troubadours burst from the gloom of Gothic barbarism. Liberty in the soul of La Source was less a principle than a passion, for his bosom beat high with philanthropy; and in his former situation as a protestant minister he had felt in a peculiar manner the oppression of the ancient system. His sensibility was acute, and his detestation of the crimes by which the revolution had been sullied, was in proportion to his devoted attachment to its cause. La Source was polite and amiable in his manners: he had a taste for music, and a powerful voice; and sung, as he conversed, with all the energy of feeling. After the day had passed in the fatigue of the public debates, he was glad to lay aside the tumult of politics in the evening, for the conversation of some literary men, whom he met occasionally at our tea-table. Ah, how little did we then foresee the horrors of that period when we should meet him in the gloom of a prison, a proscribed victim, with whom this melancholy interview was beset with danger!

We were obliged to converse in whispers, while we kept watch successively at the outer door, that if any step approached he might instantly fly to his chamber. He had much to ask, having been three months a close prisoner, and knowing little of what was passing in the world; and though he seemed to forget all the horrors of his situation in the consolation he derived from these moments of confidential conversation, yet he frequently lamented, that this last gleam of pleasure which was shed over his existence was purchased at the price of our captivity. In the solitude of his prison, no voice of friendship, no accents of pity had

reached his ear ; and after our arrival, he used through the lonely day to count the hours till the prison-gates were closed, till all was still within its walls, and no sound was heard without, except at intervals the hoarse cry of the sentinels, when he hastened to our apartment. The discovery of these visits would indeed have exposed us to the most fatal consequences ; but our sympathy prevailed over our fears ; nor could we, whatever might be the event, refuse our devoted friend this last melancholy satisfaction. La Source at his second visit was accompanied by Sillery, the husband of Madame de Sillery, whose writings are so well known in England *. Sillery was about sixty years of age ; had lived freely, like most men of his former rank in France ; and from this dissipated life had more the appearance of age than belonged to his years. His manners retained the elegance, by which that class was distinguished which Mr Burke has denominated ' the Corinthian capital of polished society.' Sillery had a fine taste for drawing, and during his confinement, displayed the powers of his pencil by tracing beautiful landscapes. He also amused himself by reading history ; and, possessing considerable talents for literature, had recorded with a rich warmth of colouring the events of the revolution, in which he had been a distinguished actor, and of which he had treasured up details precious for history. With keen regret he told me he had committed several volumes of manuscript to the flames, a sad sacrifice to the Omars of the day.

The mind of Sillery was somewhat less fortified against his approaching fate than that of La Source. The old man often turned back on the past and wept, and sometimes enquired with an anxious look, if we believed there was any chance of his deliverance. Alas ! I have no words to paint the sensations of those moments !

* Better known in England as Madame de Genlis, author of *Adelaide and Theodore*, and other Treatises on Education.

moments! To know that the days of our fellow captives were numbered—that they were doomed to perish—that the bloody tribunal before which they were going to appear, was but the path-way to the scaffold—to have the painful task of stifling our feelings, while we endeavoured to sooth the weakness of humanity by hopes which we knew were fallacious, was a species of misery almost insupportable. There were moments indeed, when the task became too painful to be endured. There were moments when, shocked by some new incident of terror, this cruel restraint gave way to uncontrolable emotion; when the tears, the sobbings of convulsive anguish would no longer be suppressed, and our unfortunate friends were obliged to give instead of receiving consolation.

They had in their calamity that support which is of all others the most effectual under misfortune. Religion was in La Source a habit of the mind. Impressed with the most sublime ideas of the Supreme Being, although the ways of heaven never appeared more dark and intricate than in this triumph of guilt over innocence, he reposed with unbounded confidence in that Providence in whose hand are the issues of life and death. Sillery, who had a feeling heart, found devotion the most soothing refuge of affliction. He and La Source composed together a little hymn adapted to a sweet solemn air, which they called their evening service. Every night before we parted they sung this simple dirge in a low tone to prevent their being heard in the other apartments, which made it seem more plaintive. Those mournful sounds, the knell of my departing friends, yet thrill upon my heart!

La Source often spoke of his wife with tender regret. He had been married only a week, when he was chosen a member of the legislative assembly, and was obliged to hasten to Paris, while his wife remained in Languedoc to take care of an aged mother. When the legislative assembly was dissolved, La Source

was

was immediately elected a member of the national convention, and could find no interval in which to visit his native spot, or his wife, whom he saw no more. In his meditations on the chain of political events, he mentioned one little incident which seemed to hang on his mind with a sort of superstitious feeling. A few days after the 10th of August, he dined in the fauxbourg of St Antoine with several members of the legislative assembly, who were the most distinguished for their talents and patriotism. They were exulting in the birth of the new republic, and the glorious part they were to act as its founders, when a citizen of the fauxbourg, who had been invited to partake of the repast, observed, that he feared a different destiny awaited them. 'As you have been the founders of the republic,' said he, 'you will also be its victims. In a short time you will be obliged to impose restraints and duties on the people, to whom your enemies and theirs will represent you as having overthrown regal power only to establish your own. You will be accused of aristocracy; and I foresee,' he added with much perturbation, 'that you will all perish on the scaffold.' The company smiled at his singular prediction: but during the ensuing winter, when the storm was gathering over the political horizon, La Source recalled the prophecy, and at times reminded Vergniaud of the man of the fauxbourg St Antoine. Vergniaud little heeded the augur; but a few day previous to the 31st of May, when the convention was for the first time besieged, La Source said again to Vergniaud, 'Well, what think you of the prophet of the fauxbourg?' 'The prophet of the fauxbourg,' answered Vergniaud, 'was in the right.'

PROEMIUM

P R O E M I U M
TO THE
MAGPIE AND ROBIN RED-BREAST.

[From Peter Pindar, Esq.]

HOW varied are our tastes! *Dame Nature's* plan,
All for *wife* reasons, since the world began:
Yes, yes, the good old *Lady* acted right:
Had things been *otherwise*, like wolves and bears,
We all had fall'n together by the ears—
One object had produc'd an endless fight.

Nettles had strewed *Life's* path instead of *roses*;
And multitudes of mortal faces,
Printed with histories of bloody noses,
Had taken leave of absence of the *Graces*.

Now interrupting not each other's line,
You ride *your* hobby-horse, and I ride *mine*—
You press the blue-ey'd *Chloe* to your arms,
And I the black-ey'd *Sappho's* browner charms:
Thus situated in our different blisses,
We squint not envious on each other's kisses.

Yet are there some exceptions to this rule:
We meet with now and then a stubborn fool,
Dragooning us into his predilections;
As though there was no *diff'rence* in affections,
And that it was the Booby's firm belief,
Pork cannot please, because *he* doats on *beef*!

Again—how weak the ways of *some*, and sad!
One would suppose the Man-creation mad:

Lo! this poor fellow, folly-drunk, he rambles,
And flings himself into *Misfortune's* brambles,

In full pursuit of *Happiness's* treasure ;
 When, with a little glance of circumspection,
 A mustard grain of sense—a *child's* reflection—
 The fool had cours'd the velvet lawn of *Pleasure*.

Idly he braves the surge, and roaring gale ;
 When *Reason*, if consulted with a smile,
 Had tow'd through summer seas his silken *sail*,
 And sav'd a dangerous and Herculean toil.

Yes, as I've somewhere said above, I find,
 That many a man has many a mind.

How I hate *Drunkenness*, a nasty pig !
 With snuff-stain'd neckcloth, without hat or wig,
 Reeling and belching wisdom in one's face !
 How I hate *Bully Uproar* from my soul,
 Whom nought but whips and prisons can controul,
 Those necessary implements of *Grace* !

Yet altars rise to *Drunkenness* and *Riot*—
 How few to mild *Sobriety* and *Quiet* !

Thou art my Goddess, *Solitude*—to thee,
 Parent of dove-ey'd *Peace*, I bend the knee !
 O with what joy I roam thy calm retreat,
 Whence soars the lark amid the radiant hour,
 Where many a varied chaste and fragrant flow'r
 Turns coyly from Rogue *Zephyr's* whisper sweet !
 Blest *Imp* ! who wantons o'er thy wide domain,
 And kisses all the *Beauties* of the plain :

Where, happy, mid the all-enlivening ray,
 The insect nations spend the busy day,
 Wing the pure fields of air, and crawl the ground ;
 Where, idle none, the Jew-like myriads range,
 Just like the Hebrews at high 'Change,
 Diffusing hum of Babel-notes around !

Where

Where *Health* so wild and gay, with bosom bare,
 And rosy cheek, keen eye, and flowing hair,
 Trips with a smile the breezy scenes along,
 And pours the spirit of content in song!

Thus tastes are various, as I've said before—
These damn most cordially, what those adore.

THE MAGPIE AND ROBIN RED-BREAST:

A TALE.

A MAGPIE, in the spirit of romance,
 Much like the fam'd Reformers now of *France*,
 Flew from the dwelling of an old *Poissarde*;
 Where, sometimes *in* his cage, and sometimes *out*,
 He justified the Revolution rout,
 That is, call'd names, and got a sop for his reward.

Red-hot with Monarch-roasting coals,
 Just like his old fish-thund'ring Dame,
 He left the Queen of crabs, and plaice, and soles,
 To kindle in Old England's realm a flame.

Arriv'd at evening's philosophic hour,
 He rested on a rural antique tow'r,

Some *Baron's* castle in the days of old;
 When furious wars, misnomer'd civil,
 Sent mighty chiefs to see the Devil,

Leaving behind, their bodies for rich mould,
 That pliable from form to form patroles,
 Making fresh houses for new souls.

Perch'd on the wall, he cocks his tail and eye,

And hops like modern beau in country dances;
 Looks dev'lish knowing, with his head awry,

Squinting with connoisseurship glances.

All on a sudden, *Maggot* starts and stares,
 And wonders, and for somewhat *strange* prepares;
 But lo, his wonder did not hold him long—
 Soft from a bush below, divinely clear,
 A modest warble melted on his ear,
 A plaintive, soothing, solitary song—

A stealing, timid, unpresuming sound,
 Afraid dim *Nature's* deep repose to wound;
 That hush'd (a death like pause) the rude *Sublime*,
 This was a novelty to *Mag* indeed,
 Who, pulling up his spindle-shanks with speed,
 Dropp'd from his turret, half-devour'd by *Time*,
A la Francoise, upon the spray
 Where a lone Red-breast pour'd to eve, his lay.

Staring the modest minstrel in the face;
 Familiar, and with arch grimace,
 He conn'd the dusky warbler o'er and o'er,
 As though he knew him years before;
 And thus began, with seeming great civility,
 All in the Paris ease of volubility—

"What—*Bobby!* dam'me, is it *you*,
 "That thus your pretty phiz to music screw,
 "So far from hamlet, village, town, and city,
 "To glad old battlements with dull psalm ditty?
 "Sdeath! what a pleasant, lively, merry scene!
 "Plenty of bats, and owls, and ghosts, I ween;
 "Rare midnight screeches, *Bob*, between you all!
 "Why, what's the name on't, *Bobby?* Dismal Hall?
 "Come, to be serious—curse this queer old spot,
 "And let thy owlsh habitation rot!
 "Join *me*, and soon in riot will we revel:
 "I'll teach thee how to curse, and call folks names,
 "And be expert in treason, murder, flames,
 "And most *divinely* play the devil.

"Yes,

"Yes, thou shalt leave this spectred hole,
 "And prove thou hast a bit of soul :
 "Soon shalt thou see old stupid *London dance* ;
 "There will we shine immortal knaves ;
 "Not steal unknown, like cuckoos, to our *graves*,
 "But imitate the geniuses of *France*.

"Who'd be that monkish, cloister'd thing, a muscle?
 "Importance only can arise from bustle !
 "Torando, thunder, lightning, tumult, strife ;
 "These *charm*, and add a *dignity* to life.
 "That thou shouldst choose this spot, is monstrous odd ;
 "Poh, poh ! thou canst not like this life, by G— !"

"Sir !" like one thunder-stricken, staring wide—
 "Can you be serious, Sir ?" the *Robin* cried.
 "Serious !" rejoin'd the *Magpie*, "aye, my boy—
 "So come, lets play the devil, and enjoy."

"Flames !" quoth the *Robin*—"and in riot revel,
 "Call names, and curse, *divinely* play the devil !
 "I cannot, for my life, the fun discern."
 "No !—blush then, *Bob*, and follow me, and learn."

"Excuse me, Sir," the modest *Hermit* cried—
 "Hell's not the hobby-horse I wish to ride."
 "Hell !" laugh'd the *Magpie*, "hell no longer dread ;
 "Why, *Bob*, in *France* the Devil's lately dead :

"Damnation vulgar to a Frenchman's hearing—
 "The word is only kept alive for swearing.
 "Against futurity they all protest ;
 "And God and Heav'n are grown a standing jest.

"Brimstone and sin are downright out of fashion ;
 "France is quite alter'd—now a *thinking* nation ;
 "No more of penitential tears and groans !
 "Philosophy has crack'd *Religion's* bones.

"As for your *Saviour* of a wicked world,
 "Long from his consequence has *be* been hurl'd;
 "They *do* acknowledge *such a man*, d'ye see;
 "But then they call him simple *Monsieur Christ*.
 "Bob, for thy ignorance, pray blush for shame—
 "Behold, *thy Doctor Priestly* says the same.

"Well! now thou fully art *convinc'd*—let's go."
 "What curst doctrine!" quoth *Robin*, "No—
 "I won't go—no! thy speeches make me shudder."
 "Poor *Robin*!" quoth the *Magpie*, "what a pudder!"
 "Be damn'd then, *Bobby*"—flying off, he rav'd—
 "And, (quoth the *Robin*) Sir, may you be sav'd!"
 This said, the tuneful *Sprite* renew'd his lay;
 A sweet and farewell hymn to parting Day.

In *Thomas Paine* the *Magpie* doth appear:
 That I'm *Poor Robin*, is not quite so clear.

POSTSCRIPT.

TO THE CANDID READER.

I really think that this Tale of the *Magpie* and *Robin* ought immediately to have followed the *Remonstrance*: but as *Disorder*, instead of *Order*, is the leading feature of my sublime *Lyric Brethren* of old, I shall take the liberty of sheltering myself under the wing of *their sacred* names. The fable was written in consequence of a strenuous application of a red-hot *Revolutionist* to a *Poet* in the country, pressing him to become a Member of the *Order of Confusion*.

MORAL.

MORAL OBLIGATION

BETWEEN A MAN AND A DOG.

[From the same.]

I Do not love a Cat—his disposition is mean and suspicious. A friendship of years is cancelled in a moment by an accidental tread on his tail or foot. He instantly spits, raises his rump, twirls his tail of malignity, and shuns you; turning back, as he goes off, a staring vindictive face, full of horrid oaths and unforgiveness; seeming to say—"Perdition catch you! I hate you for ever." But the Dog is my delight:—tread on *his* tail or foot, he expresses, for a moment, the uneasiness of his feelings; but in a moment the complaint is ended. He runs around you; jumps up against you; seems to declare his sorrow for complaining, as it was not intentionally done, nay, to make himself the aggressor; and begs, by whinings and lickings, that Master will think of it no more. Many a time, when Ranger, wishing for a little sport, has run to the gun, smelt it, then wriggling his tail, and, with eyes full of the most expressive fire, leaped up against me, whining and begging, have I, against my inclination, indulged him with a scamper through the woods or in the field: for many a time he has left a warm nest, among the snows of winter, to start pleasure for *me*. Thus is there a moral obligation between a Man and a Dog.

THE OLD SHEPHERD'S DOG.

THE old Shepherd's Dog, like his master, was gray;
 His teeth all departed, and feeble his tongue;
 Yet where'er *Corin* went, he was followed by *Tray*;
 Thus happy through life did they hobble along.

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When

When, fatigu'd, on the grass the Shepherd would lie,
 For a nap in the sun—'midst his slumbers so sweet;
 His faithful companion crawl'd constantly nigh,
 Plac'd his head on his lap, or lay down at his feet.

When *Winter* was heard on the hill and the plain,
 And torrents descended, and cold was the wind;
 If *Corin* went forth 'mid the tempests and rain,
Tray scorn'd to be left in the chimney behind.

At length in the straw *Tray* made his last bed;
 For vain, against death, is the stoutest endeavour—
 To lick *Corin*'s hand he rear'd up his weak head,
 Then fell back, clos'd his eyes, and, ah! clos'd
 them for ever.

Not long after *Tray* did the Shepherd remain,
 Who oft o'er his grave with true sorrow would bend;
 And, when dying, thus feebly was heard the poor swain—
 "O bury me, neighbours, beside my old Friend!"

ANECDOTE OF MR WILKES.

MR Wilkes, going to Dolly's chop-house, accidentally seated himself near a rich and purse-proud citizen, who almost stunned him with roaring for his *flake*, as he called it. Mr Wilkes in the mean time asking him some common question, received a very brutal answer: the steak coming at that instant, Mr Wilkes turned to his friend, saying—"See the difference between the city and bear-garden; in the latter, the bear is brought to the flake, but here the flake is brought to the bear."

HUMOROUS

HUMOROUS APOLOGY FOR AUTHORS.

BY MR CUMBERLAND.

I HOPE the candid reader now and then calls to mind how much more nimbly he travels over a book than the writer did. When our dullness is complained of, it would be but charity in him to reflect how much pains that same dullness has cost us; more, he may be assured, than our brighter intervals, where we sprung nimbly forward with easy weight, instead of toiling like a carrier's horse, whose slow and heavy pace argues the load he draws, and the labour he endures. Alas! for us poor Novelists, if there was no mercy for dull authors, and our countrymen, like the barbarous Libethrians of old, should take it into their minds to banish music and the muses out of the land, and murder every Orpheus that did not fiddle to their taste. They should consider, that the man, who makes a book, makes a very pretty piece of furniture; and if they will but consign us to a quiet station on a shelf, and give us wherewithal to cover us in a decent trim, the worst among us will serve to fill up the file, and stop a gap in the ranks.

It is hard indeed to toil, as we sometimes do, to our own loss and disappointment; to sweat in the field of fame, merely to reap a harvest of chaff, and pile up reams of paper for the worm to dine upon. It is a cruel thing to rack our brains for nothing, run our jaded fancies to a stand-still, and then lie down at the conclusion of our race, a carcase for the critics. And what is our crime all the while? A mere mistake between our readers and ourselves, occasioned by a small miscalculation of our capacities and their candour; all which would be avoided, if happily for us they had not the wit to find out our blunders; or, happily for them, had all that good-nature for us that we generously exercise towards ourselves. If once they could

bring their tempers to this charming complacency, they might depend upon having books in plenty; authors would multiply like polypusses, and the press would be the happiest mother in the kingdom.

How many worthy gentlemen are there in this blessed island of ours, who have so much time on their hands, that they do not know what to do with it? I am aware how large and respectable a portion of this enlightened nation centre their delights in the chace, and draw an elegant resource from the sagacity of the hound and the vigour of the horse; but they cannot always be on the saddle; the elements they cannot command; and frost and snow will lock them up within their castle walls; there it is possible that solitude may surprise them, and dismiss them for a time to their own lucubrations: now, with all possible respect for their resources, I should think it may sometimes be worth their while to make experiment of other people's lucubrations, when they have worn out their own, for those must be but sorry thoughts, which are not better than not thinking at all; and the least they can gain by an author is a nap.

The ingenuity of man has invented a thousand contrivances for innocently disposing of idle time; let us, then, who write books, have only the idlers on our side, in gratitude for the amusement we give them, and let the rest of the world be as splenetic as they will, we may set their spleen at nought; the majority will be with us.

If a querulous infant is stilled by a rattle, the maker of the rattle has saved somebody's ears from pain and persecution; grant, therefore, that a novel is nothing better than a toy for children of a larger growth and more unruly age, society has some cause to thank the writer of it; it may have cheered the debtor in his prison, or the country squire in a hard frost. Traders will cry up the commodity they deal in, therefore I do not greatly insist on the praises which some that
write

write books have bestowed on book-writing; but I do observe, that great respect is paid to an author by those who cannot read him, wherefore I conclude, those who can read, and do not praise him, are only silent because they wanted words to express their admiration and gratitude; while those sanguine flatterers, who, in the excess of their respect for our persons, cry down our performances, give evident proof how much higher they had pitched their expectations of what our talents would produce, than our productions could make good; but though in their zeal for our reputations, they tell us how ill we write, they seldom neglect at the same time to shew us how we might have written still worse.

Some over-wise people have pretended to discover, that this altercation between author and critic is nothing more than a mere plot and contrivance to play into each other's hands, like Mountebank and Zanny; but this is over-acted sagacity, and an affectation of finding more mysteries in the art of authorship, than really belong to it; for my part, I believe it is a business of a more simple nature than most, which can be taken up, and that authors in general require nothing more than pen, ink, and paper, to set up with. In ancient times, the trade was in few hands, and the work seems then to have been composed with much pains and forethought; materials were collected with great care, and put together with consummate accuracy and attention; every part was fitted to its place, polished to the height, and finished to perfection; there were inspectors on the part of the public, men of sound judgment, and fully competent to the office, who brought the work to a standard of rule and measure, and insisted upon it, that every whole should have *a beginning, a middle, and an end*. Under these strict regulations the ancients wrote; but now that practice has made us perfect, and the trade is got into so many hands, these regulations

tions are done away, and so far from requiring of us a *beginning, middle, and end*, it is enough if we can shew a head and a tail; and it is not always that even these can be made out with any tolerable precision. As our authors write with less labour, our critics review with less care; and for every one fault that they mark in our productions, there probably might be found one hundred that they overlook. It is an idle notion, however, to suppose that therefore they are in league and concert with the authors they revise; for where could that poor fraternity find a fund to compensate them for suffering a vocation once so reputable to fall into such utter disgrace under their management, as to be no longer the employ of a gentleman? As for our readers, on whom we never fail to bestow the terms of candid, gentle, courteous, and others of the like soothing cast, they certainly deserve all the fair words we can give them; for it is not to be denied, but that we make occasionally very great demands upon their candour, gentleness, and courtesy, exercising them frequently and fully with such trials as require those several endowments in no small proportion.

But are there not also fastidious, angry, querulential readers? readers with full stomachs, who complain of being surfeited and over-loaded with the story-telling trash of our circulating libraries? It cannot be altogether denied, but still they are readers: if the load is so heavy upon them as they pretend it is, I will put them in the way of getting rid of it, by reviving the law of the ancient Cecertæans, who obliged their artists to hawk about their several wares, carrying them on their backs, till they found purchasers to ease them of the burden. Was this law put in force against authors, few of us, I doubt, would be found able to stand under the weight of our own unpurchased works.

But while the public are contented with things as they are, where is the wonder if the reform is never made by us till they begin it in themselves? Let their
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taste lead the fashion, and our productions must accord to it. While the Cookeries of Hannah Glasse outcirculate the Commentaries of Blackstone, authors will be found, who prefer the compilation of receipts to that of records, as the easier and more profitable task of the two. If puerilities are pleasing, men will write *ut pueris placeant*.

SCENE FROM DR GOLDSMITH'S CELEBRATED COMEDY—SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

[*With a beautiful Engraving.*]

Enter SIR CHARLES and MISS HARDCASTLE.

Sir Cha. What a situation am I in! If what you say appears, I shall then find a guilty son. If what he says be true, I shall then lose one, that, of all others, I most wished for a daughter.

Miss Hard. I am proud of your approbation, and to shew you I merit it, if you place yourselves as I directed, you shall hear his explicit declaration. But he comes. [Exit Sir Charles.

Sir Cha. I'll to your father, and keep him to the appointment.

Enter MARLOW.

Marl. Though prepar'd for setting out, I come once more to take leave, nor did I, till this moment, know the pain I feel in the separation.

Miss Hard. (*In her own natural manner*) I believe these sufferings cannot be very great, sir, which you can so easily remove. A day or two longer, perhaps, might lessen your uneasiness, by shewing the little value of what you now think proper to regret.

Marl. (*Aside*) This girl every moment improves upon me. (*To her*) It must not be, madam. I have already trifled too long with my heart. My very pride begins

begins to submit to my passion. The disparity of education and fortune; the anger of a parent; and the contempt of my equals begin to lose their weight; and nothing can restore me to myself, but this painful effort of resolution.

Miss Hard. Then go, sir. I'll urge nothing more to detain you. Though my family be as good as hers you came down to visit, and my education, I hope, not inferior, what are these advantages without equal affluence? I must remain contented with the slight approbation of imputed merit; I must have on'y the mockery of your addresses, while all your serious aims are fixed on fortune.

Enter HARDCASTLE and SIR CHARLES from behind.

Sir Cha. Here, behind this screen.

Hard. Aye, aye, make no noise. I'll engage my Kate covers him with confusion at last.

Marl. By Heavens, madam, fortune was ever my smallest consideration. Your beauty at first caught my eye; for who could see that without emotion. But every moment that I converse with you, steals in some new grace, heightens the picture, and gives it stronger expression. What at first seem'd rustic plainness, now appears refin'd simplicity. What seem'd forward assurance, now strikes me as the result of courageous innocence, and conscious virtue.

Sir Cha. What can it mean? He amazes me!

Hard. I told you how it would be. Hush!

Marl. I am now determined to stay, Madam, and I have too good an opinion of my father's discernment; when he sees you, to doubt his approbation.

Miss Hard. No, Mr Marlow, I will not, cannot detain you. Do you think I could suffer a connection, in which there is the smallest room for repentance? Do you think I would take the mean advantage of a transient passion, to load you with confusion? Do you think I could ever relish that happiness, which was acquired by lessening yours.

Marl:

Marl. By all that's good, I can have no happiness but what's in your power to grant me. Nor shall I ever feel repentance, but in not having seen your merits before. I will stay, even contrary to your wishes; and though you should persist to shun me, I will make my respectful assiduities atone for the levity of my past conduct.

Miss Hard. I must entreat you'll desist. As our acquaintance began, so let it end, in indifference. I might have given an hour or two to levity; but seriously, Mr Marlow, do you think I could ever submit to a connection, where I must appear mercenary, and you imprudent? Do you think I could ever catch at the confident addresses of a secure admirer?

Marl. (Kneeling) Does this look like security? Does this look like confidence? No, madam, every moment that shews me your merit, only serves to encrease my diffidence and confusion. Here let me continue——

Sir Cha. I can hold it no longer. Charles, Charles, how hast thou deceived me! Is this your indifference, your uninteresting conversation!

Hard. Your cold contempt; your formal interview. What have you to say now?

Marl. That I'm all amazement! What can it mean?

Hard. It means that you can say and unsay things at pleasure. That you can address a lady in private, and deny it in public: that you have one story for us, and another for my daughter!

Marl. Daughter!—this lady your daughter!

Hard. Yes, Sir, my only daughter. My Kate, whose else should she be?

Marl. Oh, the Devil!

Miss Hard. Yes, Sir, that very identical tall squinting lady you were pleased to take me for, (*courtesy-ing*) she that you addressed as the mild, modest, sentimental man of gravity, and the bold forward agreeable Rattle of the ladies club; ha, ha, ha!

Marl.

Marl. Zounds, there's no bearing this ; it's worse than death.

Miss Hard. In which of your characters, Sir, will you give us leave to address you. As the faltering gentleman, with looks on the ground, that speaks just to be heard, and hates hypocrisy ; or the loud confident creature, that keeps it up with Mrs Mantrap, and old Miss Biddy Buckskin, till three in the morning ; ha, ha, ha !

Marl. O, curse on my noisy head. I never attempted to be impudent yet, that I was not taken down. I must be gone.

Hard. By the hand of my body, but you shall not. I see it was all a mistake, and I am rejoiced to find it. You shall not, Sir, I tell you. I know she'll forgive you. Won't you forgive him, Kate. We'll all forgive you. Take courage, man.

[*They retire, she tormenting him to the back scene.*]

TQUASSUOW AND KNONQUAIHA

A HOTTENTOT STORY.

TQUASSUOW, the son Kquassomo, was conqueror or chief captain over the Sixteen Nations of Caffraria. He was descended from N'oh and Hing'oh, who dropped from the moon ; and his power extended over all the kraals of the Hottentots.

This prince was remarkable for his prowess and activity ; his speed was like the torrent that rushes down the precipice, and he would overtake the wild ass in her flight ; his arrows brought down the eagle from the clouds ; the lion fell before him, and his lance drank the blood of the rhinoceros. He fathomed the waters of the deep, and buffeted the billows in the tempest : he drew the rock-fish from their lurking
holes.

holes, and rifled the beds of coral. Trained from his infancy in the exercise of war, to wield the hassagaye with dexterity, and break the wild bulls to battle, he was a stranger to the soft dalliance of love; and beheld with indifference the thick-lipped damsels of Gongeman, and the flat nosed beauties of Hauteniqua.

As Tquafluow was one day giving instructions for spreading toils for the elk, and digging pit-falls for the elephant, he received information that a tyger, prowling for prey, was committing ravages on the kraals of the Chamtouers. He snatched up his bow of olive-wood, and bounded, like the roe-buck on the mountains, to their assistance. He arrived just at the instant when the enraged animal was about to fasten on a virgin; and, aiming a poisoned arrow at his heart, laid him dead at her feet. The virgin threw herself on the ground, and covered her head with dust, to thank her deliverer; but, when she rose, the prince was dazzled with her charms; he was struck with the glossy hue of her complexion, which shone like the jetty down on the black hog of Hessaqua; he was ravished with the pressed gristle of her nose; and his eyes dwelt with admiration on the flaccid beauties of her breasts, which descended to her navel.

Knonmquaiha (for that was the virgin's name) was daughter to the kouquequa, or leader of the kraal, who bred her up with all the delicacy of her sex: she was fed with the entrails of goats; she sucked the eggs of the ostrich, and her drink was the milk of ewes. After gazing for some time upon her charms, the prince, in great transport, embraced the soles of her feet; then ripping up the beast he had just killed, took out the caul, and hung it about her neck, in token of his affection. He afterwards stripped the tyger of his skin: and sending it to the kouquequa her father, demanded the damsel in marriage.

The eve of the full moon was appointed for the celebration of the nuptials of Tquafluow and Knonmquai-

ha. When the day arrived, the magnificence, in which the bridegroom was arrayed, amazed all Caffraria: over his shoulders was cast a krosse, or mantle, of wild cat skins; he cut sandals for his feet from the raw hide of an elephant; he hunted down a leopard, and of the spotted fur formed a superb cap for his head; he girded his loins with the intestines; and the bladder of the beast he blew up and fastened to his hair.

Nor was Knonmquaiha less employed in adorning her person: she made a varnish of the fat of goats mixed with foot, with which she anointed her body, as she stood beneath the rays of the sun; her locks were clotted with melted grease, and powdered with yellow dust of buchu; her face, which shone like the polished ebony, was beautifully varied with spots of red earth, and appeared like the sable curtain of the skinkbinsem; her arms and legs were entwined with the shining entrails of an heifer; from her neck there hung a pouch composed of the stomach of a kid; the wings of an ostrich overshadowed the fleshy promontories behind; and, before, she wore an apron formed of the shaggy ears of a lion.

The chiefs of the several kraals, who were summoned to assist at their nuptials, formed a circle on the ground, sitting upon their heels, and bowing their heads between their knees, in token of reverence. In the centre, the illustrious prince, with his sable bride, reposed upon soft cushions of cow-dung. Then the furri, or chief-priest, approached them, and, in a deep voice, chaunted the nuptial rites to the melodious grumbling of the Gom-gom; and at the same time (according to the manner of Caffraria) bedewed them plentifully with his urinary benediction. The bride and bridegroom rubbed in the precious stream with extasy; while the briny drops trickled from their bodies, like the cozy surge from the rocks of Chirigriqua.

The Hottentots had seen the increase and wane of two moons since the happy union of Tquassuow and Knonmquaiha.

Knornmquaiha, when the kraals were surprised with the appearance of a most extraordinary personage, that came from the savage people who arose from the sea, and had lately fixed themselves on the borders of Caffraria. His body was enwrapped with strange coverings, which concealed every part from sight except his face and hands. Upon his skin the sun darted his scorching rays in vain, and the colour of it was pale and wan as the watery beams of the moon. His hair, which he could put on and take off at pleasure, was white as the blossoms of the almond-tree, and bushy as the fleece of the ram; his lips and cheeks resembled the red ochre, and his nose was sharpened like the beak of an eagle; his language, which was rough and inarticulate, was as the language of beasts: nor could Tquassuow discover his meaning, till an Hottentot (who, at the first coming of these people, had been taken prisoner, and had afterwards made his escape) interpreted between them. This interpreter informed the prince, that the stranger was sent from his fellow countrymen to treat about the enlargement of their territories, and that he was called, among them, Mynheer Van Snickerfnee.

Tquassuow, who was remarkable for his humanity, treated the savage with extraordinary benevolence: he spread a mantle of sheep-skins, anointed with fat, for his bed; and, for his food, he boiled in their own blood the tripes of the fattest herds that grazed in the rich pastures of the Heykoms. The stranger, in return, instructed the prince in the manners of the savages, and often amused him with sending fire from a hollow engine, which rent the air with thunder: nor was he less studious to please the gentle Knornmquaiha. He bound bracelets of polished metal about her arms, and encircled her neck with beads of glass; he filled the cocoa-shell with a delicious liquor, and gave it her to drink, which exhilarated her heart, and made her

eyes sparkle with joy: he also taught her to kindle fire through a tube of clay with the dried leaves of dacha, and to send forth rolls of odorous smoke from her mouth. After having sojourned in the kraals for the space of half a moon, the stranger was dismissed with magnificent presents of the teeth of elephants; and a grant was made to his countrymen of the fertile meadows of Kochequa, and the forests of Stinkwood, bounded by the Palamite river.

Tquassuow and Knonmquaiha continued to live together in the most cordial affection: and the surris every night invoked the great Gounja Tuquoa, who illuminates the moon, that he would give an heir to the race of H'oh and Hing'n'oh. The princess at length manifested the happy tokens of pregnancy, her waist encreased daily in circumference, and swelled like the gourd. When the time of her delivery approached, she was committed to the care of the wise women, who placed her on a couch of the reeking entrails of a cow newly slain; and to facilitate the birth, gave her a potion of the milk of wild asses, and fomented her loins with the warm dung of elephants. When the throes of child-birth came on, a terrible hurricane howled along the coast, the air bellowed with thunder, and the face of the moon was obscured as with a veil. The kraal echoed with shrieks and lamentations, and the wise women cried out, that the princess was delivered of a monster.

The offspring of her womb was white. They took the child, and washed him with the juice of aloes; they exposed his limbs to the sun, anointed them with the fat, and rubbed them with the excrement of black bulls: but his skin still retained its detested hue, and the child was still white. The venerable surris were assembled to deliberate on the cause of this prodigy; and they unanimously pronounced, that it was owing to the evil machinations of the dæmon Cham ouna, who

who had practised on the virtue of the princess under the appearance of Mynheer Van Snickersnee.

The adulterous parent, with her unnatural offspring, were judged unworthy to live: they bowed a branch of an olive-tree in the forest of Lions, on which the white monster was suspended by the heels, and ravenous beasts feasted on the issue of Knonmquaiha. The princess herself was sentenced to the severe punishment allotted to the heinous crime of adultery. The kouqueguas, who scarce twelve moons before had met to celebrate her nuptials, were now summoned to assist at her unhappy death: they were collected in a circle, each of them wielding an huge club of cripplewood. The beauteous criminal stood weeping in the midst of them, prepared to receive the first blow from the hand of her injured husband. Tquassuow in vain assayed to perform the said office; thrice he uplifted his ponderous mace of iron, and thrice dropped it ineffectual on the ground. At length, from his reluctant arm, descended the fell stroke, which lighted on that nose, whose flatness and expansion had first captivated his heart. The kouqueguas then rushing in, with their clubs, redoubled their blows on her body, till the pounded Knonmquaiha lay as an heap of mud which the retiring flood leaves on the strand.

Her battered limbs, now without form and distinction, were enclosed in the paunch of a rhinoceros, which was fastened to the point of a bearded arrow, and shot into the ocean. Tquassuow remained inconsolable for her loss: he frequently climbed the lofty cliffs of Chirigriqua, and cast his eyes on the watery expanse. One night, as he stood howling with the wolves to the moon, he descried the paunch that contained the precious relics of Knonmquaiha, dancing on a wave, and floating towards him. Thrice he cried out with a lamentable voice, 'Bo, bo, bo!' then springing from the cliff, he darted like the eagle fouling on his prey. The paunch burst asunder beneath

his weight; the green wave was discoloured with the gore; and Tquaassuow was enveloped in the mass. He was heard of no more; and it was believed, that he was snatched up into the moon.

Their unhappy fate is recorded among the nations of the Hottentots to this day; and their marriage rites have ever since concluded with a wish, That the husband may be happier than Tquaassuow, and the wife more chaste than Knonmquaiha.

A PICTURESQUE VIEW OF THE BANKS OF THE RHINE.

(From Mrs Radcliffe's Journey through Holland, Germany, &c. lately published.)

THE road led us along the western bank of the Rhine among vineyards, and corn, and thick trees, that allowed only transient catches of the water between their branches; but the gigantic form of Drakenfels was always seen, its superior features perhaps appearing more wild, from the partial concealment of its base, and assuming new attitudes as we passed away from it. Lowenberg, whose upper region only had been seen from Goodesberg, soon unfolded itself from behind Drakenfels, and displayed all its pomp of wood, sweeping from the spreading base in one uninterrupted line of grandeur to the spiry top, on which one high tower of the castle appears enthroned among the forests. This is the loftiest of the Seven Mountains; and its dark sides, where no rock is visible, form a fine contrast with the broken cliffs of Drakenfels. A multitude of spiry summits appeared beyond Lowenberg, seen and lost again, as the nearer rocks of the shore opened to the distance, or re-united. About a mile further, lies the pleasant island on which Adelaide raised her

her convent. As it was well endowed, it has been rebuilt, and is now a large and handsome quadrangle of white stone, surrounded with trees, and corn, and vineyards, and still allotted to the society which she established. An abrupt, but not lofty rock, on the western shore of the Rhine, called Roland's Eek, or Roland's Corner, is the site of her lover's castle, of which one arch, picturesquely shadowed with wood, is all that remains of this monument to faithful love. The road winds beneath it, and nearly overhangs the narrow channel that separates Adelaide's island from the shore. Concerning this rock there is an ancient rhyme in the country, amounting to something like the following :

Was not Roland the knight a strange silly wight,
For the love of a nun, to live on this height?

This shore of the Rhine may be said to be bounded, for many miles, by an immense wall of rock, through which the openings into the country behind are few ; and these breaks shew only deep glens, seen and lost again so quickly, that a woody mountain, or a castle, or a convent, were the only objects we could ascertain.

Sometimes, as we approached a rocky point, we seemed going to plunge into the expanse of water beyond ; when, turning the sharp angle of the promontory, the road swept along an ample bay, where the rocks, receding, formed an amphitheatre, covered with *ilex* and dwarf wood, round a narrow, but cultivated level stripe : then, winding the furthest angle of this crescent, under huge cliffs, we saw the river beyond, shut in by the folding bates of more distant promontories, assume the form of a lake, amidst wild and romantic landscapes. Having doubled one of these capes, the prospect opened in long perspective, and the green waters of the Rhine appeared in all their majesty, flowing rapidly between ranges of marbled rocks, and a succession of woody steeps, and overlooked by a multitude

titude of spiry summits, which distance had sweetly coloured with the blue and purple tints of air.

The retrospect of the river, too, was often enchanting, and the Seven Mountains long maintained their dignity in the scene, superior to many intervening heights; the dark summit of Lowenbourg, in particular, appeared, for several leagues, overlooking the whole valley of the Rhine.

The eastern margin of the river sometimes exhibited as extensive a range of steep rocks as the western, and frequently the fitness of the salient angles on one side, to the recipient ones on the other, seemed to justify the speculation, that they had been divided by an earthquake, which let the river in between them. The general state of the eastern bank, though steep, is that of the thickest cultivation. The rock frequently peeps in rugged projections, through the thin soil, which is scattered over its declivity, and every where appears at top; but the sides are covered with vines so abundantly, that the labour of cultivating them, and of expressing the wine, supports a village at least every half mile. The green rows are led up the steeps to an height, which cannot be ascended without the help of steps cut in the rock: the soil itself is there supported by walls of loose stones, or it would fall either by its own weight, or with the first pressure of rain; and sometimes even this scanty mould appears to have been placed there by art, being in such small patches, that perhaps only twenty vines can be planted in each. But such excessive labour has been necessary only towards the summits, for, lower down, the soil is sufficiently deep to support the most luxuriant vegetation.

It might be supposed from so much produce and exertion, that this bank of the Rhine is the residence of an opulent, or, at least, a well-conditioned peasantry, and that the villages, of which seven or eight are frequently in sight at once, are as superior to the neighbouring towns by the state of their inhabitants, as they
are

are by their picturesque situation. On the contrary, the inhabitants of the wine country are said to be amongst the poorest in Germany. The value of every hill is exactly watched by the landlords, so that the tenants are very seldom benefited by any improvement of its produce. If the rent is paid in money, it leaves only so much in the hands of the farmer as will enable him to live, and pay his workmen; while the attention of a great number of stewards is supposed to supply what might be expected from his attention, had he a common interest with his landlord in the welfare of the state. But the rent is frequently paid in kind, amounting to a settled proportion of the produce; and this proportion is so fixed, that, though the farmer is immoderately distressed by a bad vintage, the best will not afford him any means of approaching to independence. In other countries it might be asked, "But though we can suppose the ingenuity of the landlord to be greater than that of the tenant at the commencement of a bargain, how happens it, that, since the result must be felt, the tenant will remain under his burthens, or can be succeeded by any other, on such terms?" Here, however, these questions are not applicable; they presume a choice of situations which the country does not afford. The severity of the agricultural system continues itself by continuing the poverty upon which it acts; and those who would escape from it, find few manufactures and little trade to employ them, had they the capital and the education necessary for either. The choice of such persons is between the being a master of day-labourers for their landlord, or a labourer under other masters.

Many of these estates belong immediately to princes, or chapters, whose stewards superintend the cultivation, and are themselves instead of the farmers, so that all other persons employed in such vineyards are ordinary servants. By one or other of these means it happens, that the bounteousness of nature to the country is very
little

little felt by the body of the inhabitants. The payment of the rents in kind is usual, wherever the vineyards are most celebrated; and at such places, there is this sure proof of the wretchedness of the inhabitants, that, in a month after the wine is made, you cannot obtain one bottle of the true produce, except by favour of the proprietors, or their stewards. How much is the delight of looking upon plenteousness lessened by the belief that it supplies the means of excess to a few, but denies those of competence to many!

Between this pass of cultivated steepes on one side of the river, and of romantic rocks on the other, the road continues for several miles. Being thus commanded on both sides, it must be one of the most difficult passages in Europe to an enemy, if resolutely defended. The Rhine, pent between these impenetrable boundaries, is considerably narrower here than in other parts of the valley, and so rapid, that a loaded vessel can seldom be drawn faster than at the rate of six English miles a day, against the stream. The passage down the river from Mentz to Cologne may be easily performed in two days; that from Cologne to Mentz requires a fortnight.

The view along this pass, though bounded, is various and changeful. Villages, vineyards and rocks alternately ornament the borders of the river, and every fifty yards enable the eye to double some massy projection that concealed the fruitful bay behind. An object at the end of the pass is presented singly to the sight as through an inverted telescope. The surface of the water, or the whole stillness of the scene was very seldom interrupted by the passing of a boat; carriages were still fewer; and indeed, throughout Germany, you will not meet more than one in twenty miles. Travelling is considered by the natives, who know the fatigue of going in carriages nearly without springs, and stopping at inns where there is little of either accommodation or civility, as productive of no pleasure;

pleasure; and they have seldom curiosity or business enough to recompense for its inconveniencies.

We passed through two or three small towns, whose ruined gates and walls told of their antiquity, and that they had once been held of some consequence in the defence of the valley. Their present desolation formed a melancholy contrast with the cheerful cultivation around them. These, however, with every village in our way, were decorated with green boughs, planted before the door of each cottage, for it was a day of festival. The little chapels at the road side, and the image, which, every now and then, appeared under a spreading tree, were adorned with wreaths of fresh flowers; and though one might smile at the emblems of superstition, it was impossible not to reverence the sentiment of pious affection, which had adjusted these simple ornaments.

About half-way to Andernach, the western rocks suddenly recede from the river, and, rising to greater height, form a grand sweep round a plain cultivated with orchards, gardens, corn-fields and vine-yards. The valley here spreads to a breadth of nearly a mile and a half, and exhibits grandeur, beauty, and barren sublimity, united in a singular manner. The abrupt steeps, that rise over this plain, are entirely covered with wood, except that here and there the ravage of a winter torrent appeared, which could sometimes be traced from the very summit of the acclivity to the base. Near the centre, this noble amphitheatre opens to a glen, that shews only wooded mountains, point above point, in long perspective; such sylvan pomp we had seldom seen! But though the tuftings of the nearer woods were beautifully luxuriant, there seemed to be few timber-trees amongst them. The opposite shore exhibited only a range of rocks, variegated like marble, of which purple was the predominating tint, and uniformly disposed in vast oblique strata. But even here, little green patches of vines peeped among the
cliffs,

cliffs, and were led up crevices where it seemed as if no human foot could rest. Along the base of this tremendous wall, and on the points above, villages, with each its tall grey steeple, were thickly strewn, thus mingling in striking contrast the cheerfulness of populous inhabitation with the horrors of tamed nature. A few monasteries, resembling castles in their extent, and known from such only by their spires, were distinguishable; and, in the widening perspective of the Rhine, an old castle itself, now and then, appeared on the summit of a mountain somewhat remote from the shore; an object rendered sweetly picturesque, as the sun's rays lighted up its towers and fortified terraces, while the shrubby steeps below were in shade.

We saw this landscape under the happiest circumstances of season and weather; the woods and plants were in their midsummer bloom, and the mellow light of evening heightened the richness of their hues, and gave exquisite effect to one half of the amphitheatre we were passing, while the other half was in shadow. The air was scented by bean-blossoms, and by lime-trees then in flower, that bordered the road. If this plain had mingled pasture with its groves, it would have been truly Arcadian; but neither here, nor through the whole of this delightful valley, did we see a single pasture or meadow, except now and then in an island on the Rhine; deficiencies which are here supplied, to the lover of landscape, by the verdure of the woods and vines. In other parts of Germany they are more to be regretted, where, frequently only corn and rock colour the land.

Fatigued at length by such prodigality of beauty, we were glad to be shrouded awhile from the view of it, among close boughs, and to see only the wide rivulets, with their rustic bridges of faggots and earth, that, descending from among the mountains; frequently crossed our way; or the simple peasant girl, leading her cows to feed on the narrow stripe of grass that
margined

margin'd the road. The little bells, that jingled at their necks, would not suffer them to stray beyond her hearing. If we had not long since dismissed our surprise at the scarcity and bad quality of cheese and butter in Germany, we should have done so now, on perceiving this scanty method of pasturing the cattle, which future observation convinced us was the frequent practice.

About sun-set we reached the little village of Namedy, seated near the foot of a rock, round which the Rhine makes a sudden sweep, and contracted by the bold precipices of Hammerstein on the opposite shore, its green current passes with astonishing rapidity and sounding strength. These circumstances of scenery, with the tall masts of vessels lying below the shrubby bank on which the village stands, and seeming to heighten by comparison the stupendous rocks that rose around them; the moving figures of boatmen and horses employed in towing a barge against the stream in the bay beyond; and a group of peasants on the high quay, in the fore-ground, watching their progress; the ancient castle of Hammerstein overlooking the whole,—these were a combination of images that formed one of the most interesting pictures we had seen.

The valley again expanding, the walls and turrets of Andernach, with its Roman tower rising independently at the foot of a mountain, and the ruins of its castle above, appeared athwart the perspective of the river, terminating the pass; for there the rocky boundary opened to plains and remote mountains. The light vapour that rose from the water, and was tinged by the setting rays, spread a purple haze over the town and the cliffs, which, at this distance, appeared to impend over it; colouring extremely beautiful, contrasted as it was by the clearer and deeper tints of rocks, wood and water nearer to the eye.

SINGULAR INCIDENTS, BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES,
AND CHARACTERISTIC TRAITS; *from the Year*
1400 to the Year 1548.

[From the Second Volume of Andrews' History of
England.]

ELIZABETH, a Jewish convert, the daughter of Rabbi Moses, was allowed two-pence per day as a consideration, in 1403, for being deserted by her family on account of her change as to religion.—*Rym. Fæd.*

It seems singular that, in 1404, the commons, after having vindicated their own privileges as to menial servants, &c. with great spirit, should with wondrous inconsistency petition the crown that it would direct the lords to examine into a false return for Rutland, and punish the offenders.—*Rot. Subsid.*

In 1406, Richard Clithero, knight of the shire for Kent, being ordered to sea as 'Admiral of the south and west,' the Kentishmen petitioned parliament that Robert Clifford, the other knight, might appear in both their names 'as if both were actually present.' And this odd request was granted.—*Rot. Parli. apud Carte.*

In 1408, archbishop Arundel declared in a preface to his canons that 'The pope was vicegerent of heaven.' 'Extraordinary language,' says Dr Henry 'to be used just at a time when the two existing popes were consigning each other to satan, and were both declared by the council of Pisa contumacious heretics.'

In the same year, we find, to the credit of English sculptors, that Thomas Colyn, Thomas Holewell, and Thomas Poppe, carried over to Bretagne an alabaster monument (which they had executed for duke John IV) and erected it in the cathedral of Nantes.
Rym. Fæd.

About

About this period died Geoffrey Chaucer, whom we call the first English poet. The rank of his parents is not known. In 1359, he became page to Edward III, married Philippa the sister of Catherine Swynford (the future wife of John of Gaunt) and is said to have had a very large income. As, however, he took a warm part on the side of the reformer Wickliff, he suffered when the Lollards were persecuted; and in, or about 1382, he was obliged to retire to the continent, whence, venturing back to England to raise money, he was seized and imprisoned. The end of his life however was spent in ease and plenty, at Donnington Castle, Berks; where he composed (as tradition says) some of his finest poems. John of Gaunt was then in power. Chaucer, as we find in Rymer's *Fœdera*, received a pitcher of wine every day from the cellars of Edward III. He had likewise from Richard II, a grant of a hogsheaf of wine every year, and this was continued by Henry IV. So well were the English kings convinced of the truth which Horace spoke—

Nulla placere diu, nec vivere carmina possunt
Quæ scribuntur atquæ potoribus.

It was in or about 1410, that a lord Beachamp travelling through the east, was hospitably received at Jerusalem by the Soldan's lieutenant; who, 'hearing that he was descended from the famous Guy earl of Warwick, whose story they had read in books written in their own language, invited him to his palace; and royally feasting him, presented him with three precious stones, of great value, beside divers clothes of silk and gold given to his servants.'—*Rous, apud Dugdale*.

In 1412, an act passed giving the certificate of a justice of the peace, in case of riots, the same force as the presentment. The first instance of extraordinary power granted to this respectable class of magistrates. —*Barrington*.

In 1413, Dr Fuller remarks that John Golope was the first person who assumed the title of an esquire; and that until the end of Henry the sixth's reign such distinctions were not used, except in law proceedings. Yet Ordericus Vitalis, as early as A. D. 1124, speaks of the earl of Mellent who, endeavouring to escape from the troops of Henry Beaclerc, and being seized by a country man, bribed him to set him free and to shave him, 'in the guise of an esquire,' 'instar armigeri,' by which means he eluded his pursuers.

It appears from Rymer's *Fœdera*, that Henry in 1417, authorised 'John Morstede, to press as many surgeons as he thought necessary for the French expedition, together with persons to make their instruments.' It is also true, and appears in the same book of records, that with the army which won the day at Agincourt, there had landed only one surgeon, the same John Morstede, who indeed did engage to find fifteen more for the army, three of which, however, were to act as archers!!! With a professional scarcity, what must have been the state of the wounded on the day of battle?

In the same year, the king observing that Holbourn, 'Alta via regia in Holbourn,' was a deep and perilous road, ordered two ships to be laden with stones at his own cost, each twenty tons in burden, in order to repair it. This seems the first paving in London.—*Rym. Fœd.*

In 1418, iron balls were not used for cannon, since we find an order for making at Maidstone in Kent, 7000 stone bullets for the king's ordnance.—*Ibid.*

In 1421, loud complaints having been made by the inferior clergy as to the inequality of their stipends, it was ordained by the superior convocation that each bishop's family-barber should shave each priest who had his orders from that bishop, without payment.—*Wilkins' Consilia.*

Cows in 1425, were valued at about sixteen modern shillings each.—*Madox. Form. Angl.*

In 1426, the assembly which met in February was called 'the parliament of bats,' since the senators being ordered to wear no swords, attended armed with clubs or bats. Their meeting too was held at Leicester, to avoid the tumult of a London mob.

In 1429, an important change was made as to the qualifications of voters for knights of shires. These were now obliged to prove themselves worth 40s. per annum. Before this, every freeholder might vote, and the vast concourse of elections brought on riots and murders. Twenty pounds would in modern days be barely an equivalent for our ancestors 40s. The freeholders were at the same time directed to chuse two of the 'fittest and most discreet knights resident in their county.' Or if none such could be found, 'notable esquires, gentlemen by birth, and qualified to be made knights, but no yeoman, or person of inferior rank.' *Henry from Statutes.*

In 1431, Holingshed relates a melancholy tale of an ungrateful Breton, who murdered his kind hostess near Aldgate. Falling however into the hands of the women in the neighbourhood, 'they so bethwacked him with stones, staves, kennel doong and other things,' says our chronicler, 'that they laid him astretching, and rid him of life.'

Nearly about this time flourished John Lydgate, 'The Monk of Bury.' He was avowedly a scholar and imitator of Chaucer, for whom he always expressed a most awful reverence. He spent his life in the profession of a tutor, travelled to France and Italy with improvement, and was much esteemed as a scholar and poet. If he had not the fire of Chaucer, he exceeded him in smoothness of language. And the extreme humility of the following lines must speak in favour of the modest poet.

I am a monk, by my profession
Of Bury, called John Lydgate by my name,
And wear a habit of perfection.

Altho' my life agree not with the fame;
That meddle shud with things spiritual
As I must needs confesse unto you all.

But seeing that I did in this proceed
At his commands, whom I could not refuse
I humbly do beseech all those that read
Or leisure have this story to peruse;
If any fault therein they find to be,
Or error that committed is by me;

That they will, of their gentleness, take pain,
The rather to correct, and mend the same,
Than rashly to condemn it with disdain;
For well I wot, it is not without blame
Because I know the verse therein is wrong,
As being some too short, and some too long.

Mr Warton writes favourably of Lydgate. 'No poet,' he says, 'seems to have possessed a greater versatility of talents. He moves with equal ease in every mode of composition. His hymns and his ballads have the same degree of merit; and whether his subject be the life of a hermit, or a hero, of St Austin or Guy of Warwick, ludicrous or legendary, a history or an allegory, he writes with ease and perspicuity.'

The following lines of Lydgate sound too modern for his age.

'Lyke as the dew descendeth on the rose
With silver drops.'

The verses too, in which Lydgate describes the reign of Saturn, have much harmony, strength, and dignity.

'Fortitude, then, stode stedfast in his might
Defendyd widows, cherished chastitee

Knyghtehode

Knyghtehode in prowes, gave so clear a light
Girt with his sworde of truthe and equitye.'

WARTON.

It is unlucky that Lydgate's favourite ballad entitled 'London Lickpenny,' is too long to be inserted here. It gives a faithful picture of the metropolis in the 15th century. Among other circumstances strawberries and cherries are spoken of as being very common.

A bad season happening in 1434, wheat was sold as high as 2l. 13s. 4d. (modern money) per quarter. It soon fell to 10s 8d. which seems to have been nearly the medium price of that commodity.—*Chron. Pret.*

Wine was then at the price of two modern shillings per gallon.—*Ibid.*

In the same year, licences were granted by the king to no less than 2433 pilgrims to visit the shrine of St James, at Compostello.—*Rym. Fed.*

Fortunately, the attraction of Thomas-a-Becket's tomb, turned the balance of travellers on religious account in favour of England.—*Henry.*

In 1436, we find the bishop of Holar in Iceland, whimsically enough hiring the master of a London merchant-ship to sail to Iceland, as his proxy, and to perform the necessary visitation of his see; the good prelate dreading in person to encounter the boisterous northern ocean.—*Rym. Fed.*

In 1439, Philip Malpas and Robert Marshal, sheriffs of London, were obliged to restore an enormous criminal, whom they had torn from the sanctuary of St Martin's Le Grand and sent to Newgate. It was not till 1457, that a check was given to these odious privileges.—*Stow.*

About this time it appears (says bishop Fleetwood) that a clergyman might be supported with decency for ten modern pounds per annum.—*Chron. Pret.*

Twenty pounds per annum was in 1439, settled by statute as the qualification for a country justice of the peace.—*Pub. Ads.*

The

The order of viscounts was established in 1440, by Henry VI, John lord Beaumont was the first created.—*Selden.*

Provisions sold thus, in 1444. Wheat per quarter, 8s. 8d. A fat ox, 3l. 3s. 4d. A hog, 6s. A goose, 6d. Pigeons 8d. the dozen, reckoned in modern money.—*Chron. Pret.*

In 1443, Dr Thomas Gascoigne was chancellor of Oxford. He seems to have felt deeply the profligacy with which ecclesiastical affairs were conducted, for thus does he express himself: 'I knew a certain illiterate ideot, the son of a mad knight; who, for being the companion or rather the fool of the sons of a great family of the royal blood, was made arch-deacon of Oxford before he was eighteen years old, and got, soon after, two rich rectories, and twelve prebends. I asked him one day what he thought of learning? 'I despise it,' said he, 'I have better livings than you great doctors, and believe as much as any of you.' 'What do you believe,' said I. 'I believe,' said he, 'that there are three Gods in one person. I believe all that God believes.'

In 1447, the freeholders of Yorkshire regained their right of electing knights, which, for near forty years, had been usurped.

About this time the following were the usual wages of servants, reckoned in the money of the age, which was exactly twice the weight of that in use in the eighteenth century.

Bailiff of husbandry, 1l. 3s. 4d. for wages yearly, beside his board, and 5s. for clothes.

Common husbandmen, 15s. and board; 4s. for clothes.

Chief carter, 1l. and diet; 4s. for clothes.

Women servant, 10s. and diet; 4s. for clothes.—

Chron. Pret.

In 1449, Henry IV. granted a protection to Robert Bolton, 'for transubstantiating imperfect metals into pure

pure gold and silver, by the art or science of philosophy.—*Rym. Fæd.*

Henry had indeed need of some such helps, the crown-revenue in that year only producing 10,000 modern pounds.

In the same year, hay sold at 7s. 1d. per load. A swan, 6s. a goose, 6d. Three thousand red herrings, 3l. 2s. all modern money.—*Chron. Pret.*

In 1454, Sir Stephen Forster was lord-mayor of London. He had been long in prison and penury, on account of his inordinate profuseness. It chanced that a most fantastical widow, who knew not how to get rid of her immense wealth, saw him begging at the gate; she admired his fine person, learnt his history, paid his debts, and married him; asking of him only this one favour, that he would lavish away her fortune as fast as he could. Forster, probably from perverseness, became a sober husband, and a prudent manager; and only expended large sums in adding a chapel and other advantageous appendages to Ludgate, where he had suffered so many hardships.—*Stow, Middleton, &c.*

The next lord-mayor Sir John Norman, draper, was the first contriver of the water-procession in the lord-mayor's show; and so pleased were the citizens with the improvement, that they wrote and sung a ballad to celebrate his fame. It began with 'Row thy boat, Norman,' &c.—*Stow.*

In 1454, an act of parliament notices 'That there had used formerly six or eight attorneyes only, for Suffolk, Norfolk, and Norwich together; that this number was now increased to more than eighty, most part of whom, being not of sufficient knowledge, come to fairs, &c. inciting the people to suits for small trespasses, &c. Wherefore there shall be hereafter but six for Suffolk, six for Norfolk, and two for the city of Norwich.'—*Parl. Ads.*

The

The elections of the Lancastrian parliament in 1459, had scarcely the semblance of decency. The members were pointed out by the king, in letters under the privy seal, and these the sheriffs returned. For this outrageous insult on the constitution, an act of indemnity was obtained.—*Parl. Hist.*

In the reign of Henry VI, the commons exchanged their former method of petitioning the king, and having their petitions formed into acts, into the more manly plan of drawing up their requests in the form of acts; which, having been approved of by the lords and consented to by the king, became firm laws.—*Blackstone's Comm.*

All historians seem to agree in affirming that, in 1464, twenty ewes, and five rams were from the Cotswold hills, in Gloucestershire, transported, by licence of the king, to Castile; and that from these are descended all those sheep who produce the fine wool of Spain.—*Trussell, &c.*

The tale is probably exaggerated, yet the English sheep might be of service in improving the Spanish breed.—*Anderson.*

In 1466, the salary of Thomas Littleton, judge of the king's bench, amounted to 136l. 13s. 4d. modern money. Beside about 17l. 7s. for his fur-gown, robes, &c.—*Rym. Fæd.*

The execrable practice of torture was now in its zenith of employment. We find Cornelius Shoemaker tormented by fire in 1468.—*W. de Wyrcestre.*

In the tower there existed a horrid 'brake,' or rack, called 'The duke of Exeter's daughter.'

Richard Carter, an adept, received in 1468, a licence to practise alchimy.—*Rym. Fæd.*

In 1468, the now opulent shires of Essex and Hertford were so bare of substantial inhabitants, that the sheriff could find only Colchester and Maldon in Essex, and not one town in Hertfordshire, which could send burgesses. Hence, and from other instances it appears,

appears, that it lay in the choice of the sheriff whether or no a town should send any representative. Nor is there any instance of complaint either of the house of commons or of the towns against the sheriff for any partiality on this score.

In the same year, many jurymen of London were openly disgraced; by being exposed in the public streets with papers on their heads declaring that they had been tampered with by the parties to the suit.—*Stow.*

The year 1474, shines in the records of chirurgery as the epoch of a most important discovery, that of lithotomy. A parisian archer, much tortured by the stone and condemned to death for a capital offence, offered to submit to the experiment. It succeeded; and his example tempted others to venture the operation. It does not however appear that, during the fifteenth century, the knowledge of this great secret was extended beyond France.—*Monstrelet. Villaret.*

The same date is also remarkable in the annals of literature for the introduction of printing into England by William Caxton. He was born in the 'Wealde,' of Kent, and served as an apprentice to Robert Large, an eminent mercer of London. He travelled abroad as an agent in the trading line during thirty years, and had the honour in being trusted, in concert with Mr R. Whetchill, to form a treaty of commerce, &c. between Edward IV, and the duke of Burgundy, whose wife, the lady Margaret of York, was Caxton's patroness. He was also befriended by the earl of Worcester and earl Rivers. He translated and continued under the title of 'Fructus Temporum,' a chronicle of England, and wrote many other works. In 1491, he died and was buried at Cambden, Gloucestershire. At the close of an inscription, to Caxton's honour, are the following lines:

'Modre of merci, shylde him from th' orribul fynd,
And bring him lyffe eternal, that never hath ynd.'

In

In the reign of Edward IV, the first regular poet-laureat of England appears. His name was John Kay, and although he has left us none of his poetical compositions, he has given to posterity a translation of the siege of Rhodes from the Latin; this he dedicates to the king, and styles himself 'hys humble Poete Laureate.'

One sentiment, which appears in a commission granted by Henry VII, in 1486, to his almoner, whom he sent to Naples concerning a commercial treaty, deserves general approbation. 'The earth being the common parent of us all, what can be more desirable and praise worthy than, by means of commerce, to communicate her various productions to all her children?—*Rym. Fæd.*

An event, in 1493, evinced how little the vindictive spirit of the feudal times was subdued. A family emulation had subsisted between the Stanleys of Pipe, in Staffordshire, and the Chetwynds of Ingestre. Sir Humphrey Stanley was one of the knights of the body to Henry VII; Sir William Chetwynd one of his gentlemen ushers. The former, as it is said, through envy, inveigled Sir William out of his house, by means of a counterfeit letter from a neighbour; and, while he was passing over Tixall heath, caused him to be attacked by twenty armed men and slain on the spot; Sir Humphrey passing with a train at that instant, under pretence of hunting, but, in fact, to glut his revenge with the sight. It does not appear that justice overtook the assassin, notwithstanding the widow of Sir William invoked it. Probably Sir Humphrey had no fortune worthy of confiscation.—*Pennant.*

In 1493 or 4, flourished Robert Fabian, who, though a mercer and sheriff of London, is ranged among the poets and historians of the day. He was said to be the most facetious and most learned of the mercers and aldermen in his century; and remarkable among laymen for skill in the Latin tongue. Mr Warton observes,

serves, that in his chronicle he paid more attention to the recording each Guildhall dinner, and city pageant, than to the most glorious victories of his countrymen in France. This was not unnatural.

Wheat sold, in 1494, at 6s. the quarter in London, a remarkably low price.—*Chron. Pret.*

In 1495, while digging a foundation for the church of St Maryhill, in London, the body of Alice Hackney was discovered; it had been buried 175 years, and yet the skin was whole, and the joints pliable. It was kept above the ground four days, without annoyance, and then re-interred.—*Holinshed.*

At this period hay, too, was sold at 10s. the load, on account of a severe drought.

About this time (the beginning of the sixteenth century) there was a great marvel seen in Scotland. A bairn was born, reckoned to be a man-child, but from the waist up was two fair persons, with all members pertayning to two bodies: to wit, two heads, well-eyed, well-eared, and well-handed. The two bodies, the one's back was fast to the other's, but from the waist down they were but one personage; and it could not be known by the ingene of men from which of the two bodies the legs, &c. proceeded. Notwithstanding, the king's majesty caused take great care and diligence on the upbringing of both their bodies; caused nourish them, and learn them to sing and play on instruments of music. Who within short time became very ingenious and cunning in the art of music, whereby they could play and sing two parts, the one the treble, and the other the tenor, which was the very dulce and melodious to hear; the common people treated them also) wondred that they could speak diverse and sundry languages, that is to say, Latin, French, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, English, and Irish. Their two bodies long continued to the age of twenty eight years, and the one departed long before the other, which was dolorous and heavy to the other;

for which, when many required of the other to be merry, he answered, 'How can I be merry which have my true marrow as a dead carrion about my back, which was wont to sing and play with me: when I was sad he would give me comfort, and I would do the like to him. But now I have nothing but dolour of the baring so heavy a burden, dead, cold, and unfavoury, my back, which taketh all earthly pleasure from me in this present life; therefore I pray to Almighty God to deliver me out of this present life, that we may be laid and dissolved in the earth, wherefrom we came, &c.—*Lindsay of Pitscottie.*

Buchanan, who relates the same strange tale, avers that he received it from 'many honest and credible persons, who saw the prodigy with their own eyes.' He adds, that the two bodies discovered different tastes and appetites; that they would frequently disagree and quarrel; and sometimes would consult each other, and concert measures for the good of both; that when any hurt was done to the lower parts, each upper body felt pain; but that when the injury was above the junction, then one body only was affected.

This monster (he writes) lived 28 years, but died wretchedly; one part expiring some days before the other, which, half putrified, pined away by degrees.—*History of Scotland.*

In 1500 there was a great plague, which shewed its virulence chiefly in London, where 30,000 persons are said to have died within a short space of time.—*Holingshed.*

In 1503, January 24, the first stone of Henry the seventh's chapel was laid. The same year Henry conferred the name of Merchant Taylors on the Taylors' company, of which he was a member, as many kings had been.

MISCELLANEOUS ANECDOTES.

BARON HOLBERG.

THE history of polite learning in Denmark, rose with the late famous baron Holberg. This was perhaps one of the most extraordinary personages, that has done honour to the present century. His being the son of a private centinel, did not abate the ardour of his ambition; for he learned to read, though without a master. Upon the death of his father, being left entirely destitute, he was involved in all those distresses which are common among the poor, and of which the great have scarce any idea. However, though only a boy of nine years old, he persisted in his studies, travelled about from school to school, and begged his learning and his bread. When at the age of seventeen, instead of applying himself to any of the lower occupations, which seem best calculated to such circumstances, he was resolved to travel for improvement from Norway, the place of his birth, to Copenhagen. He lived here by teaching French; at the same time avoiding no opportunity of improvement, that his scanty funds could permit. But his ambition was not to be restrained, or his thirst of knowledge satisfied, until he had seen the world. Without money, without recommendations, or friends, he undertook to set out upon his travels, and made the tour of Europe on foot. A good voice, and a trifling skill in music, were the only finances he had to support an undertaking so extensive; so he travelled by day; and at night sung at the doors of peasants' houses, to get himself a lodging. In this manner young Holberg passed through France, Germany, and Holland, and, coming over to England, took up his residence for two years in the university of Oxford. Here he subsisted by teaching French and music, and wrote his Universal History, his earliest, but worst performance. Furnished with all the learn-

ing of Europe, he at last thought proper to return to Copenhagen, where his ingenious productions quickly gained him that favour he deserved. He composed not less than eighteen comedies; those in his own language are said to excel, and those which are wrote in French have peculiar merit. He was honoured with nobility, and enriched by the bounty of the king; and a life begun in contempt and penury, ended in opulence and esteem.

VANDILLE,

WAS the Elwes of France. When he became extensively rich, worth seven or eight hundred thousand pounds (which he begot or multiplied on the body of a single shilling, from the age of sixteen to the age of seventy-two) one day he heard a woodman going by in summer, at which season they stock themselves with fuel for the winter; he agreed with him at the lowest rate possible, but stole from the poor man several logs, with which he loaded himself to his secret hiding-hole, and thus contracted, in that hot season, a fever: he then sent, for the first time, for a surgeon to bleed him, who asked half a livre for the operation, and was dismissed; he then sent for an apothecary, but he was as high in his demand; he then sent for a poor barber, who undertook to open a vein for threepence a time. But, says Vandille, how often will it be required to bleed? Three times, said he: and what quantity of blood do you intend to take? About eight ounces each time, answered the barber. That will be ninepence. 'Too much, too much' says the old miser, 'I have determined to go a cheaper way to work: take the whole quantity you design to take at three times, at one time, and that will save me sixpence.' This was insisted on, he lost twenty-four ounces of blood, and died in a few days.

THE

THE FRENCH CHARACTER.

A PAMPHLET was secretly printed some years ago at Lyons, and reprinted at Amsterdam, the subject of which is, 'The advantages and origin of the gayety that prevails among the French.'—This pamphlet is no otherwise valuable *now*, than as showing how fallacious it is to form opinions of the character of a nation from superficial remarks, or a general acquaintance only. The author, however, makes some curious remarks. He observes that gayety is a peculiarity in their national character; and, what is extremely remarkable, nothing, in his opinion, can overcome it; nothing can deject that light and airy people. Let them be loaded with taxes, let their trade be ruined, their fleets sunk, their armies defeated; all this makes little alteration in their demeanour. They do not sing a song the less, or look a whit the graver on this account. Nay more, a Frenchman is immediately comforted under the loss of a town, a province, or a battle, if he be allowed to level an epigram at the head of a minister, or general, to whose charge these misfortunes are laid. A joke dispels the gloom of affliction, and a *bon mot* diffuses cheerfulness through a sad heart. A jack pudding in a French ship is the best preservative against the scurvy; and it is well known that when the famous Louvois heard of a spirit of desertion having got into a strong garrison, he always sent a Merry Andrew to retain the soldiers in their duty. The author of the letter imputes this gayety to the following causes. 1. To their climate. 2. To the nature of their government, which exempts them from all influence or share in public affairs, the transacting of which renders men naturally grave and serious. 3. To that vanity, which gives the French a fond and pleasing notion of their superiority over all other nations. And 4thly, To their sociability. It may be observed that three of these causes may yet be supposed to exist, but whether the effects are the same, our readers must determine.

COUNT ZINZENDORFF.

THIS celebrated statesman, strange as it may seem, was less zealous of his reputation in the cabinet, than of his honour in displaying the most splendid, and the most exquisite table, that perhaps was ever kept in Vienna, or any other capital. His magnificence in this point would have been truly wonderful, if it had not been eclipsed by various excellencies of a superior kind. His skill was so great, that he was equally acquainted with Asiatic and Italian luxury. His olios exceeded those of Spain; his pastry was much more delicate than that of Naples; his Perigord pies were truly brought from thence; his sausages were made at Bologna; his macaroni by the grand duke's cook; and as for his wines, no country that produced a grape of any repute, but a sample of it, for the honour of its vineyards, was to be found at his all-capacious side-board. His kitchen was an epitome of the universe; for there were cooks in it of all nations; and in the adjacent numerous and spacious apartments, were to be found rarities collected from all the quarters of the globe. He had, in order to collect these, his agents for provisions in every country; the carriages on which they were laden, came quicker and more regularly than the posts; and those who were well-informed, believed that the expences of his entertainments ran higher than that for secret correspondence, though very possibly they might be rendered subservient and useful to each other.

In his general conversation, the count was cautious and circumspect: in his conferences with other ministers, reserved, though very polite; but at his table all this state machinery was laid aside. There, to display his superior learning, he discoursed at large, and delivered the most curious as well as copious lectures on all his exotic and domestic delicacies. In these he showed a true spirit of justice; no man was ever less a plagiarist. This *pillau* he had from prince Eugene,

who

who had it from the bashaw of Buda; the egg-soup was made after the mode of the marchionese de Prie; the Rouen ducks were stewed in the style of the cardinal de Bois; and the lampreys came ready dressed (potted) from a great minister in England. His dishes furnished him with a kind of chronology; his water fouchy was borrowed from Marshal D'Auverquerque's table, when he was first in Holland: the pheasant *tourt*, was a discovery he made in Spain, where he was so lucky as to pick up a man, who, as a purveyor, had been in the service of that prince of *bon-vivans* the duke de Vendome; but he always allowed that the grand school of cookery was the congress at Soissons, where the political conferences indeed proved ineffectual, but the entertainments of the several ministers were splendid beyond description. In a word, with a true Apician eloquence, he generously instructed all the novices in good living; and as Solomon discoursed of every herb, from the cedar of Lebanon to the hyssop on the wall; so he began with a champignon no bigger than a Dutchman's waistcoat button, and ended with the wild-boar, the glory of the German forests.

This, says baron Pollnitz, is no malignant censure, but a gentle and genuine representation of this great man's ostentation, in what he chose to make his principal profession. If it was right, as possibly many may think it, then, though faintly drawn, this is to be considered as a panegyric; but if wrong, it is no libel, but barely an admonitory exhortation to those, who, in every high station, may be a little tinged with this folly; and a short exercise upon this proposition, that the science of eating, great as it may be, is, after all, no very liberal science.

ANEC-

ANECDOTES,

From Madame Roland's Appeal to Posterity.

WHEN I quitted the Abbey, I left there the family of Defilles, which was soon after removed to the Conciergerie, whence many concerned in the conspiracy in Brittany were conducted to the scaffold. Angelica Defilles, the wife of Roland de la Fouchais, the similarity of whose name to mine occasioned one of my friends, who wanted to carry me off, to make some singular mistakes, was one of the victims. Her sisters were acquitted, and consequently ought to have been set at liberty; but, as a measure of general safety, they were immediately arrested, and conveyed to St Pelagie, where I saw them. We sometimes conversed together. They were both young, mild, and good. The elder, a widow of twenty-seven, wanted neither amiableness, nor a decided character: the younger was of a very delicate constitution. At first, overwhelmed with grief, it appeared as if they must sink under it: but both mothers of unfortunate children of the tenderest years, they had to live for their sakes, and summoned up all their courage.

They several times mentioned to me the base treachery of Chestel, a man of wit, known at Paris, where he practises physic; a Breton by birth, who had insinuated himself into the most intimate confidence of Defilles the father, knew his wishes, and appeared to aid his schemes: but, connected at the same time with Danton, he received through his means commissions from the executive power, repaired to Brittany, to pay his court to his friend, taking up his abode at his country house, feasted by his relations, encouraging his designs, and giving them fresh activity by his assistance. The moment that appeared to him most sure, he secretly

cretly informed against him, and brought the parties concerned together, that they might be seized.

Defilles escaped. All his family were apprehended. His effects were sealed up. The places where his papers might be concealed, which Cheftel had pointed out, were searched. The young women, who still thought him a friend to the family, begged his advice, and implicitly followed his directions. Embarrassed with a purse of two hundred louis intended for their father, they put it in his hands, ordered the best horse in their stable to be saddled, and pressed Cheftel to depart, that he might not be taken. He professed himself determined to share their fate; indeed accompanied them, but not as a prisoner; and would always have persuaded the commander of the armed force, charged with the conveyance of the prisoners, to contrive, that they should enter the great towns by day. — ‘Surely you cannot mean any such thing,’ said the commander: ‘it would endanger their lives.’

They arrived at Paris. The trial commenced. The name of Cheftel was erased from the correspondence, because he had disclosed the plot; and the poor victims then discovered the serpent they had entertained. Tried, acquitted, yet confined, and without money, the two young women recollected the purse of louis. They confided this circumstance to a man of courage and probity, who went to Cheftel, and demanded the two hundred louis. Cheftel, taken by surprise, at first denied the fact; but, terrified at the firmness of the demander, who threatened to expose him to the whole world, he hesitatingly confessed the receipt of half that sum: which he repaid in assignats, though not till after repeated interviews.

Cheftel, formerly physician to madam Elizabeth*, assiduous in pursuit of fortune, had in like manner gained the confidence of a wealthy private gentleman, whose name was I think Paganel, or something like it,
and

* The king's sister.

and who, amongst other possessions, had immense estates in Limousin. Paganel, desirous of emigrating, to shun the storms of the revolution, made a fictitious sale of his property to Chestel. He departed, and reckoned upon the income, which his faithful friend was to remit to him: but Chestel kept it for himself, and enjoys with Danton the pleasures of an opulence, which both have acquired by similar means.

At length repeated solicitations, perhaps assisted by more valuable offers, procured the two sisters their liberty. I saw them depart: but I did not know their secret on this head. I have just seen Castellane, however, quit this prison, at the price of 30,000 livres (£1250), paid to Chabot. Dillon got out of Magdelonettes in the same manner. Both were involved in a charge of a counter-revolutionary plot. This very moment, (August 22,) I have under my eyes one Miss Briant, living at No. 207, St Bennet's cloister, a woman of the town, whose keeper is a forger of assignats. An information has been lodged against him, and a pursuit has been pretended to be set on foot: but gold has rained into the hands of the administrators: he, who directs the persons appointed to discover and seize him knows where he is concealed: his mistress is apprehended for form's sake: the administrators, who pretend to come and interrogate her, bring her news of her keeper: and they will soon be together at liberty, as they have money to purchase it.

Fouquai-Tainville, public accuser to the revolutionary tribunal, notorious for his dissolute life, and impudence in making out articles of impeachment without any cause, is in the habit of receiving money from the parties. Madam Rochechouart payed him 8000 livres (£3333) for Momy the emigrant. Fouquai-Tainville pocketed the sum: Momy was executed: and it was hinted to Madam Rochechouart, that, if she opened her mouth about the affair, she should be instantly clapped into prison, never more to behold the face of day.

day. Is it possible? the reader may exclaim.—Do you doubt it? hear more. In the hands of a late president of the department of the Eure there are two letters from Lacroix the deputy, formerly judge fiscal of Amet. One contains an engagement for five hundred thousand livres (£20,833), for the purchase of national domains: the other is to withdraw the engagement, and assigns for his reason the decree, which obliges deputies to justify any increase of their fortune since the revolution. But this decree has been suffered to sleep, since the troublesome twenty-two were expelled: Lacroix holds estates as well as Danton, after having pilaged like him.

Lately a Dutchman went to the commune of Paris for a passport to return to his own country. It was refused. The Dutchman made no complaint; but, seeing which way the wind blew, he took out his pocket-book, and placed an assignat of a hundred crowns on the desk. This language was well understood, and he received his passport.

Here Marat will be quoted to me, at whose death, according to the public papers, no more than a single assignat of 25 sols (12 pence halfpenny) was found in his house. What edifying poverty! Let us however examine his habitation, borrowing the description of a lady. Her husband, a member of the revolutionary tribunal, is confined in the house of correction, for differing in opinion from the rulers: she has been put into St Pelagie, as a measure of safety, it is said; but probably because the active solicitations of this little woman from the south of France were dreaded. Born at Toulouse, she has all the vivacity of that ardent climate where she first saw the light, and a few months ago she was disconsolate at the imprisonment of a cousin, to whom she was tenderly attached. She had given herself much pains to no purpose, and knew not where farther to apply, when she bethought herself of Marat. She knocked at his door, and was told he was not

not at home : but he heard a female voice, and came out. He had on boots, without stockings, an old pair of leather breeches, and a white silk waistcoat. His dirty shirt, open at the bosom, exhibited his skin of yellow hue ; long and dirty nails marked the ends of his fingers ; and his frightful visage was perfectly in union with this strange dress. He took the lady by the hand ; led her into a salon newly fitted up, furnished with blue and white damask, and decorated with silk curtains elegantly drawn up in festoons, a splendid chandelier, and superb vases of porcelain filled with natural flowers, then scarce and of high price ; sat down by her side on a voluptuous sofa ; listened to her tale ; kissed her hand ; squeezed her knees a little ; and promised her, that her cousin should be set at liberty.—‘ I would have let him even kiss my lips, if he pleased ;’ said the little woman gaily, with her Toulousan accent ; ‘ but upon condition of washing them afterwards : provided he restored to me my cousin.’—That very evening Marat went to the committee, and the next day her cousin left the Abbey. But ere four and twenty hours had passed, the friend of the people wrote to the husband, sending him a person who stood in need of a certain favour which he took care not to refuse.

One M. Dumas, a natural philosopher by profession or a man of learning by trade, presented himself before the famous committee of public safety, some time in the month of June, to make it some important proposals. He offered to reconnoitre the army of the rebels in Vendee, and to give an exact account of its situation and numbers ; circumstances concerning which the utmost ignorance has prevailed since the commencement of the war. M. Dumas pretended most accurately to inspect the whole, by taking a bird’s eye view of it from a balloon.—‘ Why, indeed, it is an ingenious thought :’ said some of the profound politicians of the committee.—‘ Yes,’ replied citizen Dumas :

Dumas: 'and it may be quickly put into execution. I know there is a balloon to be found, with all its appendages, in the hotel of an emigrant: so that the nation need not be at the expence of the purchase.'—Bravo! He gives the necessary information. It is received with transport, and officially sent to the minister of the home department, for him to find the balloon without delay. The minister sets his people in motion. They repair to the emigrant's hotel, which was an inn; and the apartment he occupied was one small chamber, where there remained not a single rag. A report was made in consequence: the committee was disconsolate: Dumas was clamorous: and a fresh injunction was issued to the minister, to make a stricter search after the balloon. On this the minister consults his secretary; and it is resolved to have recourse to grand measures. A letter is written to the department: the department sends to the municipality; and the municipality puts the affair into the hands of its magistrates of police. Here the business was lost to the public functionaries; and I laughed heartily at the Abbey with Champagneux, who wrote the ministerial letter, at the charlatantry of the brazen-faced Dumas, the sottishness of the committee, the complaisance of the minister, and the whole category of follies: but I found the clew of the history at St Pelagie.

Citizen Jubert, a magistrate of the police, one of those who signed the contradictory orders for apprehending me and setting me at liberty, a fat man, with a hoarse voice, a true section-prater, with a disgusting face, and awkward gait, discovered one Miss Lallement, a tall pretty girl of fifteen, kept by St Croix, an eminent officer, in the service, I think, of Philip d'Orleans. She was taken up, and sent to St Pelagie. In her apartment were found the cover of a balloon, its net, and other things belonging to it. This was the very prize described by Dumas: but the committee had forgotten the expedient; the philosopher had

lost all hopes of making himself of consequence; the minister cared little about the result of the orders he had given; and the magistrates had no objection to take into their own possession what was now a thing of some value.

Jubert thought the little Lallement handsome. He had laid hands on several of her effects, amongst which was a portrait of St Croix, and he deemed it very silly for her to pretend to be faithful to him. At length imagining, that kindness would render her more tractable, he procured an order for her discharge, came to fetch her in a carriage, conducted her to her home, where he ordered a dinner, restored to her after much sollicitation the portrait of St Croix, the eyes of which he had spoiled, and expected a reward. The young girl laughed at his expectations, as she ridiculed his manner, showed him the door, and repaired to the police-office, to upbraid him publicly with his attempts, whilst she claimed the other effects, that had been taken from her. The adventure made some noise: but the colleagues of Jubert were not like to condemn it: and she passed through many others, still more disgusting or atrocious; of which the legislators of the 2d of June daily offer examples to all the constituted authorities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.

(With a beautiful Portrait.)

HIS Royal Highness, GEORGE FREDERICK PRINCE OF WALES, the first offspring of their present Majesties, was born on the 16th of August 1763.

Of an open and ingenuous mind, he has, from his earliest youth, mingled with his future subjects, and participated in their public amusements. Living thus
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H. Bachelard sculp. Ed.

PRINCE OF WALES.



freely among us, he knows what we are; and we, in the mean time, are no strangers to his genuine character. Every trait has been remarked; and we see the presage of a sovereign worthy to succeed, at a distant day, one of the best Kings with which any nation was ever blessed. When the sure stroke of Death, which must finally penetrate the purest bosom, shall bring a heavy cloud of misery over the land, and deluge our country with grief, it may happily be the will of Heaven, that the matured virtues of this amiable Prince shall prove the rising Sun, again to cheer, and to irradiate, the gloomy and desponding nation!

The person of his Royal Highness, is peculiarly beautiful and interesting; his address is, at once, easy and dignified; and his amiable and gentle manners command respect which they by no means appear to deserve. His power over his heart is irresistible! he is idolized by all who know him! He has an enlarged mind; an unsuspicious temper; and his disposition is good-nature in the extreme. Averse to ostentation of every kind, the world, though sensible that he has a humane and benevolent heart, is yet little aware how many families are blessed by his private munificence. The ready patron of literature, of science, and of arts, it is only to be regretted that his ability is not as boundless as his inclination.

Let not this be for a moment considered as a venal panegyrick; which is but the honest effusion of a loyal heart, grateful for the many blessings which our country has enjoyed under the mild and virtuous sway of his exemplary family. It is for those demons of discord to bruit, which indecent exultation, every indiscretion of a youthful mind, who have themselves first seduced, by the most consummate artifice, the feet of inexperienced and confiding innocence, into the flowery paths of meretricious pleasure. Be it ours to hail, with the celestial glow of angelic delight, every deliverance of virtue, from the mazes of error, into which

the best dispositions, such is the infirmity of our nature! are not unfrequently the soonest betrayed.

That the illustrious pair, who have entered into the sacred state, in which only the extreme degree of human happiness can possibly be enjoyed, may possess every felicity of which it is susceptible, for a long series of years, is a wish which we express in the sincerity of our heart; and in which, we are persuaded, we shall be cordially and heartily joined, by every good and enlightened mind!

———“Wedded love—

The source of num'rous ties, uniting all,
To swell the stream of bliss, from many a spring
Unknown to those who slight the rosy wreath,
And weakly deem a slavish, galling chain,
The flow'ry band that binds two willing hearts—
Conveys a rational, sublime delight,
Which nothing else can give, and without which
All human life were vain!”

HARRISON'S Conjugal Felicity.

THE TINKER AND GLAZIER;

OR, ONE GOOD TURN DESERVES ANOTHER.

A TALE. BY MR HARRISON.

SINCE Gratitude, 'tis said, is not o'er common,
And friendly acts are pretty near as few;
With high and low, with man, and eke with woman;
With Turk, with Pagan, Christian, and with Jew;
We ought, at least, whene'er we chance to find,
Of these rare qualities a slender sample,
To shew they may possess the human mind,
And try the boasted influence of example.
Who knows, how far the novelty may charm?
It can't, at any rate, well do much harm.

The

The Tale we give, then ; and, we need not fear,
The moral, if there be one, will appear.

Two thirsty souls met on a sultry day,
One Glazier Dick, the other Tom the Tinker ;
Both with light purses, but with spirits gay,
And hard it were to name the sturdiest drinker.

 Their ale they quaff'd ;
And, as they swigg'd the nappy,
 Tho' both agreed, 'tis said,
 That trade was wond'rous dead,
 They jok'd, fung, laugh'd,
And were compleatly happy.

The Landlord's eye, bright as his sparkling ale,
Glisten'd to see them the brown pitcher hug ;
For ev'ry jest, and song, and merry tale,
Had this blithe ending—"Bring us t'other mug !"

Now Dick the Glazier feels his bosom burn,
To do his friend, Tom Tinker, a good turn ;
And where the heart to friendship feels inclin'd,
Occasion seldom loiters long behind.

 The kettle, gaily singing on the fire,
Gives Dick a hint, just to his heart's desire :
And, while to draw more ale the Landlord goes,
Dick, in the ashes, all the water throws ;

 Then puts the kettle on the fire again,
And at the Tinker winks,
 As "trade's success !" he drinks,
Nor doubts the wish'd success Tom will obtain !

Our Landlord ne'er could such a toast withstand ;
So, giving each kind customer a hand,
 His friendship, too, display'd,
And drank—"Success to trade !"

But, O how pleasure vanish'd from his eye,
How long and rueful his round visage grew ;
Soon as he saw the kettle's bottom fly,
Solder the only fluid he could view !

THE CALEDONIAN BEE.

He rav'd, he caper'd, and he swore,
And d—'d the kettle's body o'er and oe'r.

"Come! come!" says Dick, "fetch us, my friend,
All trades, you know, must live: [more ale;
Let's drink—" May trade, with none of us, e'er fail!"

The job to Tom, then, give;
And, for the ale he drinks, our lad of mettle,
Take my word for it, soon will mend your kettle."

The Landlord yields; but hopes, 'tis no offence,
To curse the trade, that thrives at his expence.
Tom undertakes the job; to work he goes;
And just concludes it, with the ev'ning's close.

Souls so congenial had friends Tom and Dick,
They might be fairly call'd, brother and brother:
Thought Tom, to serve my friend I know a trick,
"And one good turn always deserves another!"

Out he now slyly slips,
But not a word he said;
The plot was in his head,
And off he nimbly trips.
Swift to the neighb'ring church, his way he takes;
Nor, in the dark,
Mistakes his mark,
But ev'ry pane of glass he quickly breaks.

Back as he goes,
His bosom glows,
To think how great will be his friend Dick's joy,
At getting so much excellent employ!

Return'd, he beckoning draws his friend aside,
Importance in his face;

And, to Dick's ear his mouth applied,
Thus briefly states the case—

"Dick! I may give you joy, you're a made man;
I've done your business most compleat, my friend:
I'm off!—the devil may catch me, if he can,

Each window of the church you've got to mend;
Ingratitude's

Ingratitude's worst curse on my head fall,
If, for your sake, I have not broke them all!"

Tom, with surprize, sees Dick turn pale,
Who deeply sighs—"O, la!"
Then drops his under-jaw,
And all his pow'rs of utt'rance fail:
While horror, in his ghastly face,
And bursting eye-balls, Tom can trace;
Whose sympathetic muscles, just and true,
Share, with his heart,
Dick's unknown smart,
And two such phizzes ne'er met mortal view.
At length, friend Dick his speech regain'd,
And soon the mystery explain'd—
"You have, indeed, my business done!
And I, as well as you, must run:
For, let me act the best I can,
Tom! Tom! I am a ruin'd man.
Zounds! zounds! this piece of friendship costs me
dear—
I always mend church windows—*by the year!*"

THE UNFEELING FATHER.

A FRAGMENT.

—“DOES Nature refuse to plead for me!”
said Charlotte, kneeling before her father; “or does she plead in vain?”—“You broke the sacred bonds of Nature,” said the old man, “when you left a father’s fond protection, and a mother’s tender care, to pursue the fortunes of the only man on earth whom they detested.”—“An heavenly Father,” exclaimed Charlotte, “forgives the sins of his children; and shall an earthly parent deny the charitable boon a repentant child demands of him?”—“To that heavenly
ly

ly Father, then," replied he, "I recommend you; for my doors are no longer open to receive you. I have made a vow, which shall never be broken. Let the friends of your husband protect his darling; you are mine no more!"—"But these children, Sir! alas, what have they done! Leave me to the cruel fate that awaits me, but suffer them not to perish!"—"They are none of mine," said the stern parent! "I shall never dandle them in my arms; they will never sit on my knees—I will foster no ingratitude. Let him who begat them take the spade and the mattock, and find them bread. No office is beneath the affection of a parent, when children have not been ungrateful!—I am your's no more!"

This was the fatal dialogue between Charlotte and her father, in the porch of his house: for she was denied a farther entrance. He himself shut the door against her, and retired to his chamber. The wind blew, and the rain beat hard, and she dared not encounter the tempest. She remained in the porch; pressed her shivering babes to her bosom; and hoped that the morning's dawn would bring mercy along with it.

But, when the morning dawned, she was no more! the servants found her a clay-cold corpse, and the two children weeping beside it!

When Arispatio was called to see the spectacle, he sunk down on the floor! Life, indeed, returned; but peace abandoned him for ever!—He loves the children; and when they ask after their mother, he says, to himself—"I was her murderer! and Heaven, in all its store of mercies, has not one for me!"—

PROGRESS

PROGRESS

OF A MODERN YOUNG GENTLEMAN.

"Have you not, in darksome night,
A meteor seen, with rapid flight,
Dart through the sky—while blockheads swear
The glitt'ring *nothing* is a star?
Ended its unsubstantial fires,
In some foul ditch it soon expires!"

AS it is the duty of every man to give instruction or caution, which may eventually deter and guide others from the precipice down which he has himself fallen; I offer you the sketch of a life which, from mistaken principles, has been spent with little satisfaction to myself, and less profit to others.

My father was a tradesman; who, though what is considered *well to do*, had nothing to spare, after the deduction of all the wants inseparable from a large family. Yet the contagion of emulation inspired us with notions of gentility; and my two elder brothers, who could not submit to cringe behind the counter—a thing which they considered fit only for mechanic souls, whose genius travelled no farther than the end of a web, and whose knowledge of equilibriums was equal only to an ounce of silk—engaged in the army, through the interest of our uncle. One of them lost a leg and an arm, and retired on the comfortable allowance of Chelsea: the other closed his career in the field of honour, like a hero whose patriotism is gentility.

As to myself, who had much partiality in my composition, though equally above the labour of a shop, I was promoted to a clerkship in a public office. I pass over the pleasure I felt when I first exchanged buckles for strings; strutted from my father's in boots; frizzed up my hair with soap and water, and dashed it off with a little flour; or, with what a genteel and *degagee* tofs

toss of the head, I marched by our neighbours, twirling a stick between my fingers; or how I affected not to see my old acquaintance. These were the first pleasures of independence.

The many hours I was unemployed, gave me opportunity to look round and see the world. I considered that, at seventeen, it is time to assume the actions of manhood; and, with the first perquisites of office, I paid a visit to the theatre.

Hitherto, my ideas had been confined; a sudden extension of view seemed to open upon me: I now ardently desired to vie with the most elegant of the company; to stare familiarly at the ladies; and was enraptured to hear the comments of a genteel young man who repeated, in seeming extasy—"Charming period!—Divine Sidons!—What pathos!" &c. &c.

Murdered Kings, and weeping Queens, haunted every attempt at slumber. I arose early in the morning, and eagerly flew to the next stationer's, where I purchased the play which I had witnessed; and, in less than a fortnight, made myself master of the principal characters, and believed myself nearly equal to the performance of them.

The short time required for attendance at office, left many idle hours on my hands; which were now filled, by practising at the shrine of Thespis. My whole library consisted of plays; my whole thoughts hinged on public applause; and many a time have I committed blunders in the street, when my ideas were rambling over the wild heath, with Lear or Douglas. More than once I have burst out—

"So, now prosperity begins to mellow,
And drop into the rotten mouth of Death."

SHAKESPEARE'S RICHARD III.

Not seldom have I attracted the attention of the ladies, by repeating—

"Oh, she was fair divinely fair!"

All might have been well, had my progress been checked at this period; but, being now advanced to my nineteenth year, and my salary being paid into my own hands, I contracted with my parents for my board, that so I might reserve more for private expenses, and be more from under their controul; and they, good souls! thought all must go well, while I advanced in the manners of a Gentleman.

My young brother, indeed, used to hint at fine cloaths and empty pockets: but self-superiority overlooked his sarcasms, as the effusion of ignorance; and I inwardly triumphed over his groviality of pursuit.

I became a member of a sixpenny spouting club, held every Sunday evening; and began to think it vulgar to to show my face at church: except, indeed, a new suit of cloaths tempted me to coquet with, and flatter the pride of, some shopkeeper's daughter, who might fancy she had made a conquest of a Gentleman.

The frequency of my attendance at the theatre, gave me a taste for late hours; when the example of young men, like myself, not seldom led us into a frolic: amounting, indeed, to no more than treating some shewy girl at an oyster-stall, or ourselves with a plate of ham, and a bottle of wine.

The time was advancing, when I intended to burst like a meteor on the world; to enrapture mankind with my performances; to become the darling of the town; the envy of my acquaintance; and, by an easy progress, to attain a splendid establishment.

With a heart beating under the pressure of anxiety, a body decked in my gayest attire, and a head filled with speeches and visions, I knocked at the manager's door. I gave in my name; and waited five minutes, in expectation of being called to the great man. He, however, was busy, and I must call again. I shall not dwell on my repetitions of attendance; and, it is probable, that I might have been wearied by disappointment;

ment, had not a shining half-crown proved, at length, the clue to the chamber of audience.

After repeating several speeches in Tragedy and Comedy, I was desired to wait till time had given a body to my voice, and expression to features where the characteristic of man had not yet made its appearance. I retired, rather with contempt for the manager's want of discernment, than a lessened opinion of myself, and I determined to lampoon him in the public prints; but from this I was diverted, by my attention's taking another turn, equally the offspring of idleness.

If it was difficult to be admitted to the stage, it was not so to the Disputing Club; where six pence from the pocket, and a little effrontery, gave a title sufficient to declaim. Patriotism now became my darling theme; and many a sleepless night have I passed, in turning a period to a climax of applause; in studying for some metaphor of brilliance which should extort a clap even from an opponent. Demosthenes and Cicero I expected to outstrip; and made no doubt of gaining the attention of the senate, where a place must be the smallest recompense for silence.

Hitherto all had been fair, and unclouded; but now I began to discover that, with the extension of my acquaintance, my necessity for money likewise increased; expence accumulated to expence. I had been accustomed to pay my taylor and shoemaker regularly at the end of the quarter; but I now suffered them to wait from one quarter to another: till my father, in mistaken good-nature, relieved me from this first embarrassment.

Habits once surrendered to, require exertion to overcome them; and this exertion was incompatible with my inclination, and the jests of my acquaintance: so that, now, the productions of my clerkship were unequal to my private extravagancies; and, not finding myself noticed by the senate, or courted by the stage, I turned my eye towards marriage, in hopes of
securing

securing an independence, which might yet enable me to live as a Gentleman.

After some little enquiry, I was introduced by a spouting companion to a young lady; who was a cousin of his, just come from the country, to wait the arrival of her father, who was a Colonel in the army, then abroad.

Florella was agreeable; professed to love wit; and, by the private instruction of my friend, had a large fortune of her own; which he begged I would keep a profound secret, lest some other should step in, and carry away a prize which he wished, out of friendship to secure to me. Adding, by a genteel hint, that a small present would be very acceptable, when I should so amply have the means.

Thus effectually blinded, while I fancied myself leading, I suffered myself to be led to the altar; and too late discovered, that I had married the mistress of my friend; that her father was a crimping serjeant; that her fortune consisted in debts, for which I was accountable; and that my only comfort was, I was still a Gentleman, uncontaminated by the shop; and that, while my younger brother is, by slow degrees, adding pound to pound, and enjoying the comforts of domesticity, behind his counter in the Poultry, I am in a fair way of retiring, like a Gentleman, behind the barriers of the Poultry Compter.

G. W.

THE GENEROUS RIVAL.

A TALE.

BY MR BACON.

I Have always been of opinion, that those harmless delusions which have a tendency to promote happiness

ness ought, in some measure, to be cherished. The airy visions of creative Fancy, serve to divert the mind from grief, and render less poignant the bitter stings of misfortune. Hope was given to man, to enable him to struggle with adversity; and without her cheering smile, the most trifling distress would cut his thread of life. It was this fascinating deity that eased the love-lorn Edwin's fears: her gentle whispers soothed each froward care, and extended his view to scenes of fancied bliss—to that happy moment when propitious Fortune should present him with the hand of Laura. Pleasing delusion! delightful thought! that made the moment of separation less painful, that soothed the rugged front of peril, and softened the rude aspect of terrific war.

Edwin was the son of a merchant of some repute in the metropolis: at the commencement of the present war, he received an appointment in the army, and was soon after sent with his regiment to the continent.

Laura was the daughter of a banker of considerable eminence, a member of the British senate, and possessed of a very extensive fortune. The attachment that subsisted between these young people was unknown to Laura's father, the proud, Mr Dalby, who expected to marry her to some person of distinction; or at least, with one who was equal in point of wealth to himself. For this purpose, he invited the most wealthy part of the senate, peers and commoners, to his splendid mansion at the west end of the town; having totally deserted that which had for many generations been the residence of his ancestors, in the east.

Miss Dalby possessed, in an eminent degree, the beauties of the mind, as well as those of the person; which, exclusive of her fortune, were sufficiently attractive to a man of sense and discernment. Many of these visitors became candidates for her election: most of them, however, were rejected by her father, to whom she was enjoined to report the name and rank

of

of each person who addressed her on the score of love. Some, the most wealthy, she was instructed to flatter with hopes of being the happy man; reserving her affections for him whom the venal parent should select to be her husband. It was some time before Dalby could fix his choice, which long hung suspended between an earl and a viscount, of nearly equal fortune: at length, the appearance of a ducal coronet banished from his mind both the one and the other; and he vainly flattered himself, in future, to address his daughter by the high sounding title of—*Your Grace*.

The young Duke Delancy, led by curiosity to behold the lady who was thus exposed to sale—for, it seems, the intention of Dalby was generally known—became enamoured of her person; and, on conversing with her, found her every thing he could wish. He instantly made proposals to Mr Dalby; which, it is almost needless to say, were as instantly accepted. His grace, knowing that the consent of the daughter would avail him but little, without possessing that of the father, had not discovered to Laura the partiality he entertained for her; but having, as he imagined, secured the main chance, made a formal declaration of his love.

Laura listened with profound attention to the impassioned assurances of affection of the noble duke; and when he paused, in expectation of receiving a confirmation of his hopes, she raised her blushing eyes, wet with the tears of anguish, from the ground; and thanking him for the honour he intended her, candidly acknowledged the pre-engagement she was under to the absent Edwin.

Charmed with her candour, and interested by her artless tale, he determined to resign his pretensions, and support the cause of the young soldier.

Laura had preserved a regular correspondence with her lover; and he was, therefore, but too well informed of the desperate situation of his suit. He longed to

fly to the arms of his mistress, but scorned to desert his post. At length, fortune gave him an opportunity of realizing his wishes, at a moment when he least expected it. The Republican army suddenly attacked, in great force, the allied troops: an obstinate battle ensued, in which Edwin particularly distinguished himself; the enemy were compleatly routed; and the young soldier, for the courage he displayed in the action, was sent to England with the gladsome tidings of victory. Having delivered the dispatches with which he had been charged, he hastened to the house of Mr Dalby; and, gaining admittance, ran up stairs into the drawing-room, where he discovered his noble rival with the mistress of his heart. His sudden and unexpected appearance threw the lovely Laura into some disorder; and it was with much difficulty she retained spirits sufficient to meet her lover's fond embrace.

At this critical moment, Mr Dalby entered the room; having from his study seen an officer cross the hall and ascend the staircase. The words—"My dear, dear Laura! and do I once more behold thee in my arms?" from the enraptured Edwin, caught the ears of the astonished Dalby, who stood fixed and motionless, mute, and almost discrediting the organs both of sight and hearing.

"Had I known, Sir," said his grace, who beheld with as much delight the agitation of Dalby, as the happiness of the youthful pair, "that the affections of your daughter had been placed on another object, I should not have offered the smallest violence to her inclination."

"My Lord—my Lord!" stammered out the enraged parent, "she is under no such engagement as you suppose." Then stepping up to Edwin—"And, pray, who the devil are you, Sir? Some fortune hunter, I suppose! But you have missed your mark, young man; be pleased, therefore, to leave my house; and, if ever you venture here again, I shall find means——"

"My

"My dear father!" said Laura, interrupting him, "you surely forget yourself! The gentleman whom you thus rudely threaten, is our neighbour's son, Mr Langley, the West India merchant, in Lombard Street!"

"Mr Langley's son!"

"Yes, Sir," returned Edwin; "and, though not blessed with equal fortune with yourself, I have sufficient to support the rank of a gentleman. I love your daughter; I long have loved her; and she has taught me to believe that she returns my affection. I ask no fortune; give me my Laura, and dispose of your wealth in whatever manner you please!"

"Very romantic, faith!—And pray, fellow, do you know who you speak so freely to?"

"O, very well, Sir!"

"That I am George Dalby, Esq. a member of the House of Commons?" Edwin bowed. "And that I have an estate, free and unincumbered—look you, Sir, free and unincumbered—that nets 10,000*l.* a year?"

"To none of these acquisitions am I a stranger, Sir," returned Edwin.

"And you, Laura, will you so far disgrace yourself and me, to throw yourself away on a dry-falter's son?—A fortune-hunter!—A beggar!"

"A what, Sir?" interrupted Edwin, with much warmth. "But I forget myself—you are my Laura's father!"

"Sir," said Laura, "I confess that I entertain a partiality for Edwin. I know his worth; and will renounce all titles, ranks, and distinction, wealth and pleasure, to live the partner of his life!"

"Then, by Heaven! as I know my worth, I will renounce you for ever! and, therefore, hence with your paramour!—you shall never more enter my doors!"

"Be it so," said the Duke; "mine are open to receive them! My house, my home, my fortune, all are theirs; they shall use them at their pleasure; they shall

live in ease, in competence, and enjoy the pleasures of their loves: while mad ambition, insatiate avarice, and increasing pride, shall torture you with never ceasing pangs, and embitter every future moment of your life!"

The disappointed, mercenary parent, flew, with bitter imprecations, from his tormentors: the lovers retired with their noble patron; and, after having spent several days in a fruitless attempt to gain the consent of Dalby, were united in the holy bands of wedlock. Edwin has since, from his professional merit, and the interest of his grace, attained a distinguished rank in the army; and the dislike of Mr Dalby to his daughter's choice has decreased, in proportion as he has risen to distinction. Several interviews have taken place, through the medium of their noble friend: and it is believed that time will root from the mind of Mr Dalby every unfavourable impression the want of fortune in his son-in-law occasion; and that Edwin and Laura will, at last, become the heirs of his immense property.

The union of this amiable pair has been blessed with two fine boys; and this increase of family has enlarged their happiness: they still continue to receive the notice of his grace, whom they consider as the author of their felicity, and invariably distinguished him by the appellation of *The Generous Rival*.

EXTRACTS

FROM WOLLSTONECRAFT'S VINDICATION OF THE
RIGHTS OF WOMEN.

REFLECTIONS ON WHAT IS CALLED AMIABLE
WEAKNESS IN WOMAN.

IT would be an endless task to trace the variety of
meanneſſes, cares, and sorrows, into which women
are

are plunged by the prevailing opinion, that they were created rather to feel than reason, and that all the power they obtain, must be obtained by their charms and weakness:

‘ Fine by defect, and amiably weak !’

And, made by this amiable weakness entirely dependent, excepting what they gain by illicit sway, on man, not only for protection, but advice, is it surprising that, neglecting the duties that reason alone points out, and shrinking from trials calculated to strengthen their minds, they only exert themselves to give their defects a graceful covering, which may serve to heighten their charms in the eye of the voluptuary, though it sink them below the scale of moral excellence?

Fragile in every sense of the word, they are obliged to look up to man for every comfort. In the most trifling dangers they cling to their support, with parasitical tenacity, piteously demanding succour; and their *natural* protector extends his arm, or lifts his voice, to guard the lovely trembler—from what? Perhaps the frown of an old cow, or the jump of a mouse; a rat, would be a serious danger. In the name of reason, and even common sense, what can save such beings from contempt; even though they be soft and fair?

These fears, when not affected, may be very pretty; but they shew a degree of imbecility that degrades a rational creature in a way women are not aware of—for love and esteem are very distinct things.

I am fully persuaded that we should hear of none of these infantine airs, if girls were allowed to take sufficient exercise, and not confined in close rooms till their muscles are relaxed, and their powers of digestion destroyed. To carry the remark still further, if fear in girls, instead of being cherished, perhaps, created, was treated in the same manner as cowardice in boys, we should quickly see women with more dignified aspects. It is true, they could not then with equal propriety be termed

termed the sweet flowers that smile in the walk of man: but they would be more respectable members of society, and discharge the important duties of life by the light of their own reason. 'Educate women like men,' says Rousseau, 'and the more they resemble our sex the less power will they have over us.' This is the very point I aim at. I do not wish them to have power over men; but over themselves.

FINE LADIES, AND NOTABLE WOMEN.

WOMEN, when they receive a careful education, are either made fine ladies, brimful of sensibility, and teeming with capricious fancies; or mere notable women. The latter are often friendly, honest creatures, and have a shrewd kind of good sense joined with worldly prudence, that often render them more useful members of society than the fine sentimental lady, though they possess neither greatness of mind nor taste. The intellectual world is shut against them; take them out of their family or neighbourhood, and they stand still, the mind finding no employment; for literature affords a fund of amusement which they have never sought to relish, but frequently to despise. The sentiments and taste of more cultivated minds appear ridiculous, even in those whom chance and family connections have led them to love; but in mere acquaintance they think it all affectation.

A man of sense can only love such a woman on account of her sex, and respect her, because she is a trusty servant. He lets her, to preserve his own peace, scold the servants, and go to church in clothes made of the very best materials. A man of her own size of understanding would, probably, not agree so well with her; for he might wish to encroach on her prerogative, and manage some domestic concerns himself. Yet women, whose minds are not enlarged by cultivation, or the
natural

natural selfishness of sensibility expanded by reflection, are very unfit to manage a family ; for, by an undue stretch of power, they are always tyrannizing to support a superiority that only rests on the arbitrary distinction of fortune. The evil is sometimes more serious, and domestics are deprived of innocent indulgences, and made to work beyond their strength, in order to enable the notable woman to keep a better table, and outshine her neighbours in finery and parade. If she attend to her children, it is, in general, to dress them in a costly manner—and, whether this attention arises from vanity or fondness, it is equally pernicious.

Besides, how many women of this description pass their days ; or, at least, their evenings, discontentedly. Their husbands acknowledge that they are good managers, and chaste wives ; but leave home to seek for more agreeable, may I be allowed to use a significant French word, *piquant* society ; and the patient drudge, who fulfils her task, like a blind horse in a mill, is defrauded of her just reward ; for the wages due to her are the caresses of her husband ; and women who have so few resources in themselves, do not very patiently bear this privation of a natural right.

A fine lady, on the contrary, has been taught to look down with contempt on the vulgar employments of life ; though she has only been cited to acquire accomplishments that rise a degree above sense ; for even corporeal accomplishments cannot be acquired with any degree of precision unless the understanding has been strengthened by exercise. Without a foundation of principles taste is superficial ; and grace must arise from something deeper than imitation. The imagination, however, is heated, and the feelings rendered fastidious, if not sophisticated ; or, a counterpoise of judgment is not acquired, when the heart still remains artless, though it becomes too tender.

These women are often amiable ; and their hearts are really more sensible to general benevolence, more
alive

alive to the sentiments that civilize life, than the square-elbowed family drudge; but, wanting a due proportion of reflection and self-government, they only inspire love; and are the mistresses of their husbands, whilst they have any hold on their affections, and the platonic friends of his male acquaintance. These are the fair defects in nature; the women who appear to be created not to enjoy the fellowship of man, but to save him from sinking into absolute brutality, by rubbing off the rough angles of his character; and by playful dalliance to give some dignity to the appetite that draws him to them.—Gracious Creator of the whole human race! hast thou created such a being as woman, who can trace thy wisdom in thy works, and feel that thou alone art by thy nature, exalted above her,—for no better purpose?—Can she believe that she was only made to submit to man, her equal; a being, who, like her, was sent into the world to acquire virtue?—Can she consent to be occupied merely to please him; merely to adorn the earth, when her soul is capable of rising to thee?—And can she rest supinely dependent on man for reason, when she ought to mount with him the arduous steeps of knowledge?—

Yet, if love be the supreme good, let women be only educated to inspire it, and let every charm be polished to intoxicate the senses; but, if they are moral beings, let them have a chance to become intelligent; and let love to man be only a part of that glowing flame of universal love, which, after encircling humanity, mounts in graceful incense to God.

THE VIRTUE OF MODESTY.

PERHAPS, there is not a virtue that mixes so kindly with every other as modesty.—It is the pale moonbeam that renders more interesting every virtue it softens, giving mild grandeur to the contracted horizon. Nothing can be more beautiful than the poetical fiction,

tion, which makes Diana with her silver crescent, the goddess of chastity. I have sometimes thought, that wandering with sedate step in some lonely recess, a modest dame of antiquity must have felt a glow of conscious dignity when, after contemplating the soft shadowy landscape, she has invited with placid fervour the mild reflection of her sisters beams to turn to her chaste bosom.

A Christian has still nobler motives to incite her to preserve her chastity and acquire modesty, for her body has been called the Temple of the living God; of that God who requires more than modesty of mien. His eye searcheth the heart; and let her remember, that if she hopeth to find favour in the sight of purity itself, her chastity must be founded on modesty and not on worldly prudence; or verily a good reputation will be her only reward; for that awful intercourse, that sacred communication, which virtue establishes between man and his Maker, must give rise to the wish of being pure as he is pure!

After the foregoing remarks, it is almost superfluous to add, that I consider all those feminine airs of maturity, which succeed bashfulness, to which truth is sacrificed, to secure the heart of a husband, or rather to force him to be still a lover when nature would, had she not been interrupted in her operations, have made love give place to friendship, as immodest. The tenderness which a man will feel for the mother of his children is an excellent substitute for the ardour of unsatisfied passion; but to prolong that ardour it is indelicate, not to say immodest, for women to feign an unnatural coldness of constitution. Women as well as men ought to have the common appetites and passions of their nature, they are only brutal when unchecked by reason: but the obligation to check them is the duty of mankind, not a sexual duty. Nature, in these respects, may safely be left to herself; let women only acquire knowledge and humanity, and love will teach them

them modesty. There is no need of falsehoods, disgusting as futile, for studied rules of behaviour only impose on shallow observers; a man of sense soon sees through, and despises the affectation.

Would ye, O my sisters, really possess modesty, ye must remember that the possession of virtue, of any denomination, is incompatible with ignorance and vanity! ye must acquire that soberness of mind, which the exercise of duties, and the pursuit of knowledge, alone inspire, or ye will still remain in a doubtful dependent situation, and only be loved whilst ye are fair! The downcast eye, the rosy blush, the retiring grace, are all proper in their season; but modesty, being the child of reason, cannot long exist with the sensibility that is not tempered by reflection. Besides when love, even innocent love, is the whole employ of your lives, your hearts will be too soft to afford modesty that tranquil retreat, where she delights to dwell, in close union with humanity.

A PICTURE OF CONNUBIAL LOVE.

COLD would be the heart of a husband, were he not rendered unnatural by early debauchery, who did not feel more delight at seeing his child suckled by its mother, than the most artful wanton tricks could ever raise; yet this natural way of cementing the matrimonial tie, and twisting esteem with fonder recollections, wealth leads women to spurn. To preserve their beauty, and wear the flowery crown of the day, that gives them a kind of right to reign for a short time over the sex, they neglect to stamp impressions on their husbands' hearts, that would be remembered with more tenderness when the snow on the head began to chill the bosom, than even their virgin charms. The maternal solicitude of a reasonable affectionate woman is very interesting, and the chastened dignity with which

a mother returns the caresses that she and her child receive from a father who has been fulfilling the serious duties of his station, is not only a respectable, but a beautiful sight. So singular, indeed, are my feelings, and I have endeavoured not to catch factitious ones, that after having been fatigued with the sight of insipid grandeur and the slavish ceremonies that with cumbersome pomp supplied the place of domestic affections, I have turned to some other scene to relieve my eye by resting it on the refreshing green every where scattered by nature. I have then viewed with pleasure a woman nursing her children, and discharging the duties of her station with, perhaps, merely a servant maid to take off her hands the servile part of the household business. I have seen her prepare herself and children, with only the luxury of cleanliness, to receive her husband, who returning weary home in the evening found smiling babes and a clean hearth. My heart has loitered in the midst of the group, and has even throbbed with sympathetic emotion, when the scraping of the well known foot has raised a pleasing tumult.

Whilst my benevolence has been gratified by contemplating this artless picture, I have thought that a couple of this description, equally necessary and independent of each other, because each fulfilled the respective duties of their station, possessed all that life could give.—Raised sufficiently above abject poverty not to be obliged to weigh the consequence of every farthing they spend, and having sufficient to prevent their attending to a frigid system of œconomy, which narrows both heart and mind. I declare, so vulgar are my conceptions, that I know not what is wanted to render this the happiest as well as the most respectable situation in the world, but a taste for literature, to throw a little variety and interest into social converse, and some superfluous money to give to the needy and to buy books. For it is not pleasant when the heart is opened by compassion and the head active in

arranging plans of usefulness, to have a prim urchin continually twitching back the elbow to prevent the hand from drawing out an almost empty purse, whispering at the same time some prudential maxim about the priority of justice.

EMPLOYMENTS OF WOMEN.

WOMEN all want to be ladies. Which is simply to have nothing to do, but listlessly to go they scarcely care where, for they cannot tell what.

But what have women to do in society? I may be asked, but to loiter with easy grace; surely you would not condemn them all 'to suckle fools and chronicle small beer!' No. Women might certainly study the art of healing, and be physicians as well as nurses. And midwifery, decency seems to allot to them, though I am afraid the word midwife, in our dictionaries, will soon give place to *accoucheur*, and one proof of the former delicacy of the sex be effaced from the language.

They might, also, study politics, and settle their benevolence on the broadest basis; for the reading of history will scarcely be more useful than the perusal of romances, if read as mere biography; if the character of the times, the political improvements, arts, &c. &c. be not observed. In short, if it be not considered as the history of man; and not of particular men, who filled a niche in the temple of fame, and dropped into the black rolling stream of time, that silently sweeps all before it, into the shapeless void called—eternity.—For shape, can it be called, 'that shape hath none?'

Business of various kinds, they might likewise pursue, if they were educated in a more orderly manner, which might save many from common and legal prostitution. Women would not then marry for a support, as men accept of places under government, and neglect

neglect the implied duties; nor would an attempt to earn their own subsistence, a most laudable one! sink them almost to the level of those poor abandoned creatures who live by prostitution. For are not milliners and mantuamakers reckoned the next class? The few employments open to women, so far from being liberal, are menial; and when a superior education enables them to take charge of the education of children as governesses, they are not treated like the tutors of sons, though even clerical tutors are not always treated in a manner calculated to render them respectable in the eyes of their pupils, to say nothing of the private comfort of the individual. But as women educated like gentlewomen, are never designed for the humiliating situation which necessity sometimes forces them to fill; these situations are considered in the light of a degradation; and they know little of the human heart, who need to be told, that nothing so painfully sharpens the sensibility as such a fall in life.

Some of these women might be restrained from marrying by a proper spirit of delicacy, and others may not have had it in their power to escape in this pitiful way from servitude; is not that government then very defective, and very unmindful of the happiness of one half of its members, that does not provide for honest, independent women, by encouraging them to fill respectable stations? But in order to render their private virtue a public benefit, they must have a civil existence in the state, married or single; else we shall continually see some worthy woman, whose sensibility has been rendered painfully acute by undeserved contempt, droop like 'the lily broken down by a plow-share.'

It is a melancholy truth; yet such is the blessed effect of civilization! the most respectable women are the most oppressed; and, unless they have understandings far superior to the common run of understandings, taking in both sexes, they must, from being treated like contemptible beings, become contemptible. How

many women thus waste life away the prey of discontent, who might have practised as physicians, regulated a farm, managed a shop, and stood erect, supported by their own industry, instead of hanging their heads surcharged with the dew of sensibility, that consumes the beauty to which it at first gave lustre; nay, I doubt whether pity and love are so near akin as poets feign, for I have seldom seen much compassion excited by the helplessness of females, unless they were fair; then, perhaps, pity was the soft handmaid of love, or the harbinger of lust.

How much more respectable is the woman who earns her own bread by fulfilling any duty, than the most accomplished beauty!—beauty! did I say?—so sensible am I of the beauty of moral loveliness, or the harmonious property that attunes the passions of a well-regulated mind, that I blush at making the comparison; yet I sigh to think how few women aim at attaining this respectability by withdrawing from the giddy whirl of pleasure, or the indolent calm that stupifies the good sort of women that it sucks in.

Proud of their weakness, however, they must always be protected, guarded from care, and all the rough toils that dignify the mind.—If this be the fiat of fate, if they will make themselves insignificant and contemptible, sweetly to waste ‘life away,’ let them not expect to be valued when their beauty fades, for it is the fate of the fairest flowers to be admired and pulled to pieces by the careless hand that plucked them. In how many ways do I wish, from the purest benevolence, to impress this truth on my sex; yet I fear that they will not listen to a truth that dear bought experience has brought home to many an agitated bosom, nor willingly resign the privileges of rank and sex for the privileges of humanity, to which those have no claim who do not discharge its duties.

Those writers are particularly useful, in my opinion, who make man feel for man, independent of the
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station he fills, or the drapery of factitious sentiments. I then would fain convince men of the reasonable importance of some of my remarks, and prevail on them to weigh dispassionately the whole tenor of my observations.—I appeal to their understandings; and, as a fellow-creature claim, in the name of my sex, some interest in their hearts. I intreat them to assist to emancipate their companion, to make her a help meet for them!

Would men but generously snap our chains, and be content with rational fellowship instead of slavish obedience, they would find us more observant daughters, more affectionate sisters, more faithful wives, more reasonable mothers—in a word, better citizens. We should then love them with true affection, because we should learn to respect ourselves; and the peace of mind of a worthy man would not be interrupted by the idle vanity of his wife, nor his babes sent to nestle in a strange bosom, having never found a home in their mothers.

DUTY OF MOTHERS.

AS the rearing of children, that is, the laying a foundation of sound health both of body and mind in the rising generation, has justly been insisted on as the peculiar destination of woman, the ignorance that incapacitates them must be contrary to the order of things. And I contend that their minds can take in much more, and ought to do so, or they will never become sensible mothers. Many men attend to the breeding of horses, and overlook the stable, who would, strange want of sense and feeling! think themselves degraded by paying any attention to the nursery; yet how many children are absolutely murdered by the ignorance of women! But when they escape, and are neither destroyed by unnatural negligence nor blind fondness,
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how few are managed properly with respect to the infant mind ! So that to break the spirit, allowed to become vicious at home, a child is sent to school ; and the methods taken there, which must be taken to keep a number of children in order, scatter the seeds of almost every vice in the soil thus forcibly torn up.

I have sometimes compared the struggles of these poor children who ought never to have felt restraint, nor would, had they been always held in with an even hand, to the despairing plunges of a spirited filly, which I have seen breaking on a strand : its feet sinking deeper and deeper in the sand every time it endeavoured to throw its rider, till at last it fully submitted.

I have always found horses, an animal I am attached to, very tractable when treated with humanity and steadiness, so that I doubt whether the violent method taken to break them, do not essentially injure them ; I am however certain that a child should never be thus forcibly tamed after it has injudiciously been allowed to run wild ; for every violation of justice and reason, in the treatment of children, weakens their reason. And, so early do they catch a character, that the base of the moral character, experience leads me to infer, is fixed before their seventh year, the period during which women are allowed the sole management of children. Afterwards it too often happens that half the business of education is to correct, and very imperfectly is it done, if done hastily, the faults, which they would never have acquired if their mothers had had more understanding.

One striking instance of the folly of women must not be omitted.—The manner in which they treat servants in the presence of children, permitting them to suppose that they ought to wait on them, and bear their humours. A child should always be made to receive assistance from a man or woman as a favour ; and, as the first lesson of independence, they should practically
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be taught, by the example of their mother, not to require that personal attendance, which is insulting humanity, when in health; and instead of being led to assume airs of consequence, a sense of their own weakness should first make them feel the natural equality of man. Yet, how frequently have I indignantly heard servants imperiously called to put children to bed, and sent away again and again, because master or miss hung about mamma, to stay a little longer. Thus made slavishly to attend the little idol, all those most disgusting humours were exhibited which characterize a spoiled child.

In short, speaking of the majority of mothers, they leave their children entirely to the care of servants; or, because they are their children treat them as if they were little demi-gods; though I always observed, that the women who thus idolize their children, seldom shew common humanity to servants, or feel the least tenderness for any children but their own.

It is, however, these exclusive affections, and an individual manner of seeing things, produced by ignorance, which keep women for ever at a stand, with respect to improvement, and make many of them dedicate their lives to their children only to weaken their bodies and spoil their tempers, frustrating also any plan of education that a more rational father may adopt; for unless a mother concurs, the father who restrains will ever be considered as a tyrant.

But, fulfilling the duties of a mother, a woman with a sound constitution, may still keep her person scrupulously neat, and assist to maintain her family, if necessary, or by reading and conversations with both sexes, indiscriminately, improve her mind. For nature has so wisely ordered things, that did women suckle their children, they would preserve their own health, and there would be such an interval between the birth of each child, that we should seldom see a houseful of babes. And did they pursue a plan of conduct, and
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not waste their time in following the fashionable vagaries of dress, the management of their household and children need not shut them out from literature, nor prevent their attaching themselves to a science, with that steady eye which strengthens the mind, or practising one of the fine arts that cultivate the taste.

But, visiting to display finery, card-playing, and balls, not to mention the idle bustle of morning trifling, draw women from their duty to render them insignificant, to render them pleasing, according to the present acceptation of the word, to every man but their husband. For a round of pleasures in which the affections are not exercised, cannot be said to improve the understanding, though it be erroneously called seeing the world; yet the heart is rendered cold and averse to duty, by such a senseless intercourse, which becomes necessary from habit even when it has ceased to amuse.

But, till more equality be established in society, till ranks are confounded and women freed, we shall not see that dignified domestic happiness, the simple grandeur of which cannot be relished by ignorant or vitiated minds; nor will the important task of education ever be properly begun till the person of a woman is no longer preferred to her mind. For it would be as wise to expect corn from tares, or figs from thistles, as that a foolish ignorant woman should be a good mother.

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